

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013



October 3, 2013

Ken Moore
Public Works Director
City of Kerman
15201 West California Avenue
Kerman, CA 93630

XREQ2013090003

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Goldenrod Avenue At-Grade Highway–Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 103A-193.90 and DOT No. 752967Y, in the City of Kerman, Fresno County.

Dear Mr. Moore:

This refers to your letter received by us via email on September 13, 2013, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Goldenrod Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) tracks, leased to the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR), in the City of Kerman (City). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 103A-193.90 and DOT No. 752967Y.

At the crossing, Goldenrod Avenue is a local roadway with two lanes and two tracks aligned in a northeast-southwest direction. SJVR operates two freight trains per day at the crossing. There are only crossbucks (R15-1) sign installed on both sides of the crossing. The annual average daily traffic (AADT) is approximately 400 vehicles.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the request letter and/or shown on the plans, shall consist of:

- removing the R15-1 signs and installing a Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device with an asphaltic concrete dike in front on both sides of the crossing per plan;
- installing Stop Lines in advance of the warning devices;
- installing a raised curb median on both sides of the crossing per plan;
- installing timber barricades on both sides of the crossing across the sidewalks and the roadway per plan to prevent pedestrians and motorists from crossing the tracks in inappropriate locations;
- installing a "SIDEWALK CLOSED" (R9-9) sign on the timber barricades across the sidewalks on the north side of the crossing on both sides of the roadway;
- changing traffic control at the intersection of Goldenrod Avenue and California Avenue by requiring westbound and eastbound traffic on California Avenue to stop by installing STOP (R1-1) signs on California Avenue at the intersection per plan, while allowing northbound and southbound traffic to be uncontrolled on Goldenrod Avenue;
- installing W10-1 (at-grade crossing advance warning) sign with a W48(CA) (Number of Tracks-2 Tracks) sign below W10-1 sign, W5-1 (Road Narrows) sign, R8-8 (DO

NOT STOP ON TRACKS) sign on the southbound Goldenrod Avenue approach, and any other signs noted per plan;

- installing striping and pavement markings (RXR) per plan.

The City has decided to not increase the number of vehicle lanes across the crossing at this time due to funding issues and the low traffic volume. The City will consider increasing the number of vehicle lanes across the tracks if the traffic volume increases substantially and adequate funding is available. At such time that the volume of traffic increases substantially, the Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) staff may request that the City consider installing traffic signals with railroad preemption at the aforementioned intersection adjacent to the crossing.

RCES staff has investigated the request by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City, UPRR, and SJVR (Parties) are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, you may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter and attachments, and summarized above.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD), 2012 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All Parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including other Commission General Orders and the CAMUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code 21084].

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by interested Parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, RCES may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site Form G page at

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/formg.htm>.

This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

At the conclusion of the project, SJVR should submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form to the FRA, reflecting the changes. CPUC requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rces@cpuc.ca.gov.

XREQ2013090003

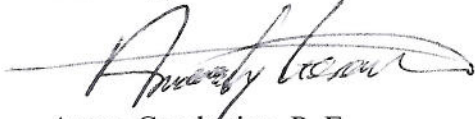
Ken Moore

October 3, 2013

Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions, please contact Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or email at mlk@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Anton Garabetian, P. E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Rail Crossings Engineering Section
Safety and Enforcement Division

Cc: Josh W. Evans, General Manager, SJVR
Kenneth Tom, Manager of Industry and Public Projects, UPRR