

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



February 10, 2014

File Number: XREQ2014010008
Cactus Avenue
Unincorporated, Riverside County

Edda Ester Rosso
Capital Projects Manager
Riverside County Transportation Commission
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92502

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Cactus Avenue Overhead Bridge Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002X-8.90-A and DOT No. 027321K, in Unincorporated Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Rosso:

This refers to your letter, dated January 22, 2014, received by us on January 24, 2014, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the grade-separated Cactus Avenue Overhead Bridge and the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) San Jacinto Subdivision track highway-rail crossing (crossing), in unincorporated Riverside County. The crossing is identified by CPUC Crossing No. 002X-8.90-A and DOT No. 027321K.

The crossing is a four-lane bridge structure that crosses over the RCTC track. Modifications to the crossing are part of a larger project identified as the Perris Valley Line (PVL), which will extend the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) commuter rail system from its current terminus in the City of Riverside to the City of Perris. The BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) operates three freight trains daily over this line with a maximum speed of 25 MPH and following completion of the PVL, SCRRA is expected to operate 12 passenger trains daily at a maximum speed of 79 MPH.

As part of the PVL Project, RCTC is proposing the following modifications under the Cactus Avenue overhead structure:

- Construction of pier protection walls for the existing bridge;
- Relocation of existing freight track west of its current location; and
- Construction of a new passenger track east of the existing freight track.

The modifications performed will have the following minimum horizontal clearances:

- Passenger track centerline to freight track centerline = 15.00 feet;

- Freight track centerline to nearest pier protection wall = 11.21 feet; and
- Passenger track centerline to nearest pier protection wall = 11.17 feet.

The modifications performed will have the following minimum vertical clearances:

- New passenger track = 23.30 feet; and
- Relocated freight track = 23.20 feet.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request filed by RCTC and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As RCTC, Riverside County, and SCRRA are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your request dated January 22, 2014, and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the current version of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by the California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the CA MUTCD.

This project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code 21080.13].

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 RCES, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, RCES may re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, RCTC and/or SCRRA shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/formg>. This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

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

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If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Juan Perez, Riverside County
Naresh Patel, SCRRA
Melvin Thomas, BNSF