

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 25, 2014

File Number: XREQ2014090010
Westbound Magnolia Avenue
Unincorporated, Riverside County

Dowling Tsai
Engineering Project Manager
Riverside County Transportation Department
3525 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Westbound Magnolia Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002B-20.35 and DOT No. 026518H in Unincorporated Riverside County.

Dear Mr. Tsai:

This refers to your letter, dated September 15, 2014, received by us on September 16, 2014, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC / Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the westbound Magnolia Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) Mainline 2B tracks in unincorporated, Riverside County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002B-20.35 and DOT No. 026518H.

The double track crossing is a two-lane roadway, located approximately 1000 feet west of the Buchanan Avenue and Magnolia Avenue traffic controlled intersection. The crossing is equipped with one Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) and one Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device. BNSF operates freight trains over this line while the Southern California Regional Rail Authority and National Railroad Passenger Corporation operate passenger trains.

The County, in cooperation with BNSF, proposes the following crossing safety improvements:

- Install dynamic envelope and "Keep Clear Zone" pavement markings; and
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) standard signage, as shown per plans.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the County and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the County and BNSF 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 September 15, 2014, and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GO's and CA MUTCD.

BNSF must also ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with CFR 234.309

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Pubic 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 RCEB, 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, RCEB may re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, County shall notify RCEB 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 CPUC web site Form G page 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, BNSF 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.

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 Safety Section
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Matt Keim, BNSF
