

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



March 25, 2015

File Number: XREQ 2015030004

Wally Sandelin
Director of Public Works
City of Lodi
221 West Pine Street
Lodi, CA 95240

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Harney Lane Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001BEL-73.84 and DOT No. 752902F in the City of Lodi, San Joaquin County

Dear Mr. Sandelin:

This refers to your letter dated March 4, 2015, received by us via email on March 9, 2015, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Harney Lane at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track in the City of Lodi (City), San Joaquin County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001BEL-73.84 and DOT No. 752902F.

The single track crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices. UPRR runs approximately 27 freight trains per day at a maximum speed of 70 mph and Amtrak runs approximately 12 passenger trains per day at a maximum speed of 79 mph over the crossing. The average daily traffic on Harney Lane is 15,149 vehicles.

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

- Constructing a new grade separated railroad overpass bridge adjacent to the existing crossing at Mile Post 73.84;
- Removing the crossing and its approaches when the grade separation is put into service.

The existing crossing will remain open while the overhead structure is constructed. The overpass will be identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001BEL-73.84-A and DOT No. 440820L.

During construction, the City is requesting a temporary impaired vertical clearance of 21 feet 6 inches. Commission General Order (GO) 26-D, Section 2.1, requires a minimum vertical clearance of 22 feet 6 inches. The City requests a temporary deviation from the vertical clearance requirements of GO 26-D. The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff (staff) contacted UPRR regarding the temporary deviation, and their representative indicated they do not oppose the request. The minimum permanent vertical clearance above top of rail will be 23 feet 6 inches.

Pursuant to Commission Resolution SX-76 and Section 16.2 of GO 26-D, City is granted a temporary deviation from GO 26-D, Section 2.1 and is authorized a temporary vertical clearance of not less than 21 feet 6 inches from the top of rail, during construction period of the structure.

The following requirements shall apply to the temporary deviation to GO 26-D, Section 2.1:

1. City shall notify UPRR and the Los Angeles office of the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division – Rail Operations Safety Branch (ROSB) and Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) at least 15 days but not more than 30 days in advance of the date when City will create the temporary reduced vertical clearance. For the Commission, this notification may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.
2. UPRR shall issue instructions to all individuals responsible for operation of trains over these tracks of the temporary reduced vertical clearance of 21 feet 6 inches, and shall submit the instructions in advance of the date when City will create the temporary reduced vertical clearance to the Los Angeles office of ROSB and RCEB. This notification may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

Staff has investigated the City's request and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As UPRR and the City 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, attachments, and summarized above.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CA MUTCD, 2014 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD.

This project is statutory 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 this office, 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, the RCEB may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/formg.htm> . This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

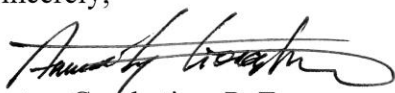
At the conclusion of the project, UPRR shall submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA, reflecting the changes. 49 CFR 234 Section

Wally Sandelin
XREQ 2015030004
March 25, 2015
Page 3 of 2

234.409 requires the railroads to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.407 requires the railroads to submit crossing inventory updates for new crossings within six months of becoming operational.

If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 928-2515 or atm@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

(SENT VIA E-MAIL)

C: Kevin Yoder, UPRR

