

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



November 18, 2015

File Number: XREQ2015110002
Spruce Street
City of Riverside, Riverside County

Edda Esther 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 Spruce Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002X-2.02 and DOT Crossing No. 027305B in the City of Riverside, Riverside County.**

Dear Ms. Rosso:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on November 3, 2015, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Spruce Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) on the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) San Jacinto Subdivision railroad track in the City of Riverside (City), Riverside County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002X-2.02 and DOT Number 027305B.

The single track crossing is a two lane divided roadway, one lane in each direction with a raised median. The crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal Assembly with automatic gate arm), and two curb mounted Commission Standard 9-E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning devices. The crossing is also equipped with four Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices in combination with swing gates at all pedestrian sidewalk approaches to the crossing. Spruce Street and Watkins Drive is the signalized intersection adjacent to and west of the crossing. Watkins Drive runs parallel to the tracks and its terminus is at Spruce Street. This San Jacinto Subdivision railroad track experiences approximately two BNSF Railway Company trains per day at 15 mph, and is part of the proposed Perris Valley Line (PVL) Metrolink project.

RCTC proposes the following alterations to the crossing, as part of the PVL Metrolink project per the submitted plans:

- Add a traffic signal head for a six phase signal indication in the northwest quadrant of the crossing, facing westbound Spruce Street traffic;
- Add a traffic signal head for a six phase signal indication in the southwest quadrant of the crossing, facing westbound Spruce Street traffic;
- Modify the traffic signal arm in the northwest quadrant of the crossing from a five section head to a three section head configuration;

- Remove one signal head indication from the curb mounted traffic signal mast in the northeast quadrant of the crossing; and
- Install a 4-inch skip white line to guide vehicle turning movements from westbound Spruce Street to southbound Watkins Drive.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by RCTC and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As RCTC, Metrolink and City 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 letter dated November 3, 2015, and summarized above are authorized.

RCTC must 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 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. 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 reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, RCTC 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 rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, RCTC should electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) reflecting the changes. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires the railroads to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years. Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@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 and Engineering Branch

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Kris Martinez, City of Riverside
Naresh Patel, Metrolink