

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



January 25, 2016

File Number: XREQ 2015120012
Friars Road Underpass
City of San Diego, San Diego County

Pete D'Ablaing
Project Manager
San Diego Association of Governments
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Friars Road Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing Number 106-263.70-B, and DOT Crossing Number 026850P, in the City of San Diego, San Diego County.

Dear Mr. D'Ablaing:

This refers to your letter dated July 29, 2015, received by us on January 4, 2016, requesting authorization pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B to modify the Friars Road grade-separated highway-rail crossing (crossing) at the North County Transit District (NCTD) Coaster track in the City of San Diego (City), San Diego County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 106-263.70-B and DOT Crossing Number 026850P.

San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) plans to construct an additional railroad track at the crossing. NCTD operates and maintains the railroad tracks.

SANDAG proposes to make the following alterations:

- Install a second mainline railroad track on the west side of the existing railroad track to provide 30 feet between the railroad track centerlines.

The minimum vertical and horizontal clearances shall comply with Commission GO 26-D.

Although the proposed light rail tracks are shown on the plans, this letter does not provide Commission approval for the light rail track work. The extension project will be reviewed and addressed separately from the proposed alterations described above.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by SANDAG, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As City and NCTD 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 July 29, 2015, and summarized above are authorized.

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

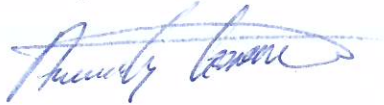
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence 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, SANDAG 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 at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Schumacher at kevin.schumacher@cpuc.ca.gov or (415) 310-9807.

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Kris McFadden, City of San Diego
Ziad Malhas, NCTD
Ernest So, SANDAG
Rebecca Zelt, San Diego Trolley