

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



March 3, 2016

File Number: XREQ 2016020009
Buchanan Street
City of Riverside, Riverside County

Debbie Anderson
Senior Engineer
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street, 4th Floor
Riverside, CA 92522

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Buchanan Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002B-20.10 and DOT Crossing No. 026516U in the City of Riverside, Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Anderson:

This refers to your letter signed, dated, and received by us on February 18, 2016, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Buchanan Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) Mainline 2B Subdivision tracks in the City of Riverside (City), Riverside County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002B-20.10 and DOT Number 026516U.

The double track crossing is a two lane divided roadway, one lane in each direction with raised medians. The crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Buchanan Street and Magnolia Avenue is the signalized intersection adjacent to and north of the crossing. Approximately 77 BNSF freight trains per day at 60 mph, and 27 combined National Passenger Railroad Company (Amtrak) and Southern California Regional Railroad Authority (SCRRA/Metrolink) passenger trains per day at 60 mph, operate over the mainline.

City proposes the following alterations to the crossing:

- Interconnect the traffic signal at Buchanan Street and Magnolia Avenue intersection with the railroad warning devices to provide advanced vehicle preemption time of 20 seconds and 29 seconds for pedestrian advanced preemption time; and
- Eliminate previously approved queue cutter traffic signals for north bound Buchanan Street.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As BNSF 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 received by us on February 18, 2016, and summarized above are authorized.

BNSF must ensure that the installed Emergency Notification Signs comply with CFR 234.309.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

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 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 re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, City 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/crossings/>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, BNSF 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
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**

Mathew Keim, BNSF
Jason Sanchez, BNSF
Naresh Patel, Metrolink