

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



April 11, 2016

File Number: XREQ 2016030011  
Pleasanton-Sunol Road  
City of Pleasanton, Alameda County

Henry Baum  
President  
Pacific Locomotives Association  
6 Kilkare Road  
Sunol, CA 94586

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Pleasanton-Sunol Road At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 091-38.30 and DOT Crossing No. 749801R in the City of Pleasanton, Alameda County.**

Dear Ms. Baum:

This refers to your letter dated October 23, 2015, and received by us on October 26, 2015, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Pleasanton-Sunol Road at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Niles Canyon Railway track in the City of Pleasanton (City), Alameda County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 091-38.30 and DOT Number 749801R. Pacific Locomotives Association operates the Niles Canyon Railway on this line.

The crossing is a two lane road running north and south. The single track crossing is at a severely skewed angle with respect to the road and is equipped with cross bucks and pavement markings with no active warning devices. The average daily traffic at this location was recorded at 3316 vehicles. Six trains pass through the crossing per year at a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour. Due to the projected use of this corridor, the Pacific Locomotives Association seeks to improve the safety at this crossing by taking the following measures:

- Install one Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Lights Assembly With Automatic Gate Arm) warning device on both approaches; and
- Relocate the "RXR" pavement markings and stop bars to an appropriate location that complies with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by Pacific Locomotive Association and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Pacific Locomotives Association and Alameda County 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 October 26, 2015, and summarized above are authorized.

Niles Canyon Railway must ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with CFR 234.309.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and CA MUTCD 2014 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

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, Pacific Locomotives Association 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](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

At the conclusion of the project, Pacific Locomotives Association 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](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

If you have any questions, please contact Sia Mozaffari at (415) 703-1815 or [sm4@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:sm4@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)**

Michael Strider, Pacific Locomotives Association  
Beth Perrill, Alameda County