

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013



March 27, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017030005  
West Blossom Way  
San Lorenzo, Alameda County

Steven Hunte, P.E.  
Associate Engineer  
Alameda County Public Works Agency  
399 Elmhurst Street  
Hayward, CA 94544

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the West Blossom Way At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001D-19.10 and DOT No. 749750H in the unincorporated area of San Lorenzo, Alameda County.**

Dear Mr. Hunte:

This refers to your letter received by us via email on March 15, 2017, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the West Blossom Way at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks in the unincorporated San Lorenzo area of Alameda County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001D-19.10 and DOT No. 749750H.

The existing configuration consists of a double-track crossing over a two lane roadway with two sidewalks and two Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Amtrak operates 16 passenger trains per day at the crossing. Average daily vehicle traffic on roadway crossing tracks is 9700.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the County's request letter and/or shown on the plans, shall consist of:

- Replacing the two Commission Standard 9 with Commission Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on cantilevered arm) warning devices;
- Installing two Commission Standard 8 (Flashing light signal assembly) warning devices in the southeast and northwest quadrants;
- Installing approximately 100 feet of median curb and delineator posts on each roadway approach;
- Installing concrete curb, gutter and sidewalks on all quadrants;
- Installing detectable warning strips prior to the warning devices on all sidewalk approaches;
- Eliminating parking within 50 feet of the crossing by painting red curbs; and
- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-2 advance warning signs, and R8-8 "DO NOT STOP ON THE TRACKS" signs.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff has investigated the request by the County, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the County and UPRR (Parties) are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the County may proceed with the improvements as described in its request letter and attachments, and summarized above. The County must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

UPRR must ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 234.309.

All Parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including other Commission General Orders and the latest version of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD). Temporary traffic controls shall be in compliance with the latest version of the CAMUTCD and detour plans as agreed to by the Parties.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code 21084].

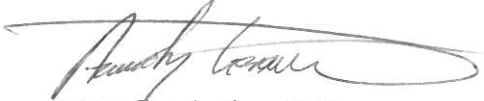
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by interested 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, the County 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 CPUC web site 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, UPRR must submit an updated electronic inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires railroads to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years. The 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 email at [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

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

Cc: Alex Croskey, Consultant  
Kevin Yoder, UPRR  
Daniel Woldesenbet, County

