

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



June 13, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017050009
4th Street
Unincorporated Riverside County

Cathy Wampler
Engineering Project Manager
County of Riverside – Transportation Department
3525 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the 4th Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001B-623.90 and DOT Crossing No. 760732J in the Unincorporated Area of Mecca in Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Wampler:

This refers to your letter dated May 3, 2017, received by us on May 23, 2017, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the 4th Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) Mainline B Subdivision track in the unincorporated area of Mecca, Riverside County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001B-623.90 and DOT Number 760732J.

The crossing is comprised of two tracks and a two lane divided roadway, with one traffic lane for each direction. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. 4th Street and Grapefruit Boulevard form a traffic signal controlled intersection approximately 270 feet west of the crossing. Approximately 34 UPRR freight trains and two Amtrak passenger trains operate per day at a maximum speed of 79 mph over the mainline. The average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 16,787 vehicles.

The County, in cooperation with UPRR, proposes the following alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Construct a five-foot six-inch wide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk on the north side of 4th Street including pedestrian channelization and detectable warning strips on both approaches to the crossing;
- Install additional concrete panels along the track to accommodate sidewalks;
- Install pedestrian barricades on the south side of 4th Street on both approaches to the crossing, and;

- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings; including W10-1 advance warning signs, R8-8 “DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS”, “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by the County and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As UPRR and the 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 May 23, 2017, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the current version of the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. The County and UPRR 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 CFR 234.309.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with current version of the CA MUTCD. Refer to CA MUTCD Section 6G.18 and Figure 6H-46 regarding “Work in the Vicinity of a Grade Crossing.”

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 proposed project 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.

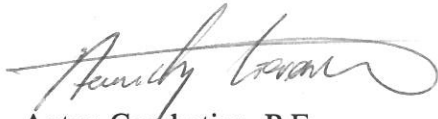
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the County shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web 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, UPRR 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.

Cathy Wampler
XREQ 2017050009
June 13, 2017
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian".

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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Alexander Popovici, UPRR
Patricia Romo, County of Riverside

