

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 14, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017080002
Interstate Freeway (I-5) Overpass
City of Norwalk, Los Angeles County

Steven Johnson
Right of Way Agent/ Railroad Coordinator
California Department of Transportation
100 South Main Street, MS 6
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossing at Interstate 5 Freeway (I-5) Overpass, Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001BKA-498.50-A and DOT No. 761473D, in the City of Norwalk, Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This refers to your letter dated August 10, 2017, received by us on August 11, 2017, requesting authorization pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Interstate 5 Freeway (I-5) grade-separated highway-rail crossing (crossing) over the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Los Nieto Subdivision tracks, in the City of Norwalk, Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001BKA-498.50-A and DOT No. 761473D.

The overpass crossing is a divided Interstate freeway with three lanes in each direction that crosses over two UPRR tracks. UPRR operates one freight train weekly with a maximum train speed of 20 MPH.

As part of the I-5 corridor widening project to relief traffic congestion and improve traffic flow, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) plans to demolish the existing bridge structures and replace them with a new structure approximately 217 feet wide.

The minimum vertical permanent clearances will be 23 feet 5 inches. The horizontal clearance will be 25 feet from the centerline of track to the bridge abutments. All permanent clearances will comply with Commission GO 26-D minimum clearance requirements. No temporary clearance is requested during construction.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by Caltrans and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Caltrans and UPRR 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 dated August 10, 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 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by Caltrans. Caltrans must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the current version of the CA MUTCD.

This project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental 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, Caltrans and/or UPRR 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 Separation*. 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 as outlined on the web page.

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR should electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA, reflecting the changes. Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Chi Cheung To at (213) 576-5766 or at cct@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)**
Helen Chiang, Caltrans
Daniel Moreno, UPRR