

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013



September 13, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017080003
Castlewood Drive
Unincorporated Alameda County

Daniel Woldesenbet
Public Works Director
Alameda County
399 Elmhurst Street
Hayward, CA 94544

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Castlewood Drive At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 004-39.52 and DOT No. 834061V in Unincorporated Alameda County.

Dear Mr. Woldesenbet:

This refers to your letter dated August 21, 2017, received by us via email requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Castlewood Drive at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track in Unincorporated Alameda County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 004-39.52 and DOT No. 834061V.

The crossing configuration consists of a single track crossing over a two lane roadway with one sidewalk and two Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Eight Altamont Corridor Express passenger trains and four freight trains operate per day at a maximum speed of 60 mph over the crossing. The average daily traffic on Castlewood is 6,851 vehicles.

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

- Installing 100 feet of mountable medians with reflective channelization devices on both approaches to the crossing;
- Installing Americans with Disabilities Act compliant detectable warning strips on both approaches of the sidewalk;
- Removing steel guard posts at the crossing arms and replacing them with raised asphalt curbs to protect the Commission Standard 9 warning devices; and
- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including R15-8 "LOOK" 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. Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CA MUTCD, 2014 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD. This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Pubic Resources Code 21084].

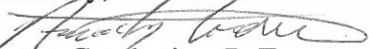
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence 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, UPRR 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.

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR should submit an updated electronic inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. Title 49 CFR Section 234.409 requires the 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Sia Mozaffari at (415) 703-1815 or email at siavash.mozaffari@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: Kevin Yoder, UPRR
Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR
Bryan Pennino, Pennino Management Group