

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



October 3, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017080008
Spruce Street
City of Riverside, Riverside County

Gilbert Hernandez, P.E., T.E.
City Traffic Engineer
City of Riverside
3900 Main St
Riverside, CA 92522

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Spruce Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002B-8.80 and DOT Crossing No. 026478M in the City of Riverside, Riverside County.

Dear Mr. Hernandez:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on August 15, 2017, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Spruce Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) Mainline 2B Subdivision tracks in the City of Riverside (City), Riverside County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002B-8.80 and DOT Number 026478M.

The crossing is comprised of three tracks and a four lane divided roadway, with two traffic lanes in each direction. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted and two median-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Spruce Street and Kansas Avenue form a traffic signal controlled intersection approximately 160 feet west of the crossing. Approximately 63 BNSF freight trains and 23 Amtrak/Metrolink passenger trains operate per day at a maximum speed of 60 mph over the crossing. The average daily vehicle traffic at the crossing is approximately 14,849.

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

- Construct a six-foot wide Americans with Disabilities Act compliant sidewalk on the north side of Spruce Street including detectable warning strips on both approaches to the crossing;
- Install pedestrian barricades on the south side of Spruce Street for both approaches to the crossing;
- Extend the median east of the crossing by 40 feet;
- Modify the pre-emption hold phase from all red flash to limited service;
- Interconnect the Kansas Ave./Spruce St. traffic control signal to the railroad signal house by installing advance preemption circuitry;
- Replace and install additional concrete panels along the track to accommodate sidewalks;
- Update all flashers to 12 inch light emitting diodes with 24 inch hoods;

- Relocate curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 in northeast quadrant five feet three inches from curb face to mast of the warning device;
- Install Commission Standard 8 (mast mounted flashing light signal assembly) warning device in the northwest quadrant, and;
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings; including W10-1 advance warning signs, “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As BNSF and the City 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 August 15, 2017, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and the current version of the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. The City and BNSF must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

BNSF 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.

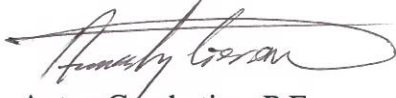
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site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

Gilbert Hernandez
XREQ 2017080008
October 3, 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 black ink, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian", with a stylized flourish extending to the left.

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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Jason Sanchez, BNSF
Bree Arnett, CPUC

