

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 5, 2018

File Number: XREQ 2018080002
I-15 East Corona (Overhead)
City of Corona, Riverside County

David K. Thomas
Toll Project Manager
Riverside County Transportation Commission
1801 California Avenue
Corona, CA 92881

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Interstate 15 (I-15) East Corona Grade-Separated Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002B-22.90-A and DOT Number 026595H, in the City of Corona, Riverside County.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

This refers to your letter received by us on July 27, 2018, requesting authorization pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the grade-separated highway-rail East Corona crossing (crossing) over the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) tracks in the City of Corona, Riverside County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002B-22.90-A and DOT Number 026595H.

The crossing consists of two highway bridges, which cross over two mainline railroad tracks, one siding track and five storage tracks owned by BNSF. The proposed alterations will add a 12-foot lane and a 10-foot shoulder to each bridge. Approximately 78 freight trains and 27 passenger trains travel over the tracks at a maximum speed of 60 mph.

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) proposes the following alterations to the crossing:

- Widen the northbound I-15 by 19 feet 6 inches on the east side;
- Widen the southbound I-15 by 19 feet 6 3/8 inches on the west side;
- Construct crash walls;
- Install double inner guard rails on both Yard Tracks 2 and 3 adjacent to bent 3 to mitigate potential train derailment damage to the structure, and;
- Install a temporary construction access crossing as outlined in the plan. The access crossing will only be used during construction hours and blocked during non-working hours.

The project proposes a temporary variance from Commission GO 26-D to allow a vertical clearance of 21 feet, six inches during construction. BNSF operates freight trains on this line and owns the right of way. BNSF is in agreement with the temporary impaired vertical clearance. All proposed permanent clearances will comply with Commission GO 26-D minimum clearance requirements.

Pursuant to Commission Resolution SX-76 and Section 16.2 of GO 26-D, RCTC is granted a temporary deviation from Commission GO 26-D, Section 2.1 and is authorized a temporary overhead clearance of not less than 21 feet 6 inches above the top of the highest rail to the lowest of point on the overhead structure during construction.

BNSF shall provide the train schedule to RCTC during construction for the safety of public, construction workers, train operators and train operations.

RCTC shall notify BNSF and the Los Angeles Office of the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division – Rail Operations Safety Branch (ROSB) and Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) at least 15 days but not more than 30 days in advance of the date when RCTC will create the temporary reduced vertical clearance. For the Commission, this notification may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

The Commission's RCEB investigated the request filed by RCTC and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the RCTC, Caltrans and BNSF 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 received by us on July 27, 2018, and summarized above, are authorized.

This project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environment 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 reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

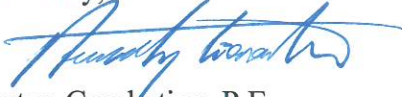
Within 30 days after completion of this project, RCTC shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web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

David Thomas
XREQ 2018080002
September 5, 2018
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 blue ink, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Tiera Adams, BNSF

