

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 17, 2019

File Number XREQ 2019090006, 7, 8
City of Tehachapi, Kern County

Jay Schlosser
City Engineer
City of Tehachapi
115 S. Robertson Street
Tehachapi, CA 90012

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Three At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing at Green Street, Hayes Street, and Dennison Road in the City of Tehachapi, Kern County

Dear Mr. Schlosser:

This refers to your letter, dated August 28, 2019, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify three at-grade highway-rail crossings (crossings) identified in the table below, over the shared rail corridor tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Mojave Subdivision and BNSF Railway (BNSF) in the City of Tehachapi (City), Kern County. UPRR owns the right-of-way.

Each crossing consists of two lanes, one lane at each direction. Each crossing is equipped with two Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices, one for each approach.

Modifications to the crossings were authorized in 2018. However, UPRR requested changes to the authorized design, and the City submitted a new request that incorporates the changes. The previous authorizations are therefore rescinded.

Crossing Names and Identification Information

Previous Authorization No.	New Authorization No.	CPUC Crossing Nos.	DOT No.	Roadway Name
XREQ 2018030012	XREQ 2019090006	001B-360.50	757436U	Green Street
XREQ 2019030013	XREQ 2019090007	001B-360.90	757246R	Hayes Street
XREQ 2019030014	XREQ 2019090008	001B-361.40	757247X	Dennison Road

The City proposes the following alterations as part of its pedestrian safety improvement project. These improvements are discussed in greater detail and shown on the plans submitted with the City's request:

For each crossing:

- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks at the crossing;

- Install additional concrete crossing panels to improve pedestrian walking surfaces;
- Install fencing to deter trespassing;
- Install ADA compliant detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing;
- Reconstruct roadway surfacing for at least 100 feet from the crossing on both directions;
- Install raised curb medians to deter motorists driving around activated warning devices
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)-compliant including W10-1, W10-2, and W48(CA) advance warning signs, and “RxR” and railroad limit pavement markings as shown on the plans.

For Green Street:

- Install regulatory signage R4-11 “BICYCLE MAY USE FULL LANE” at the H Street intersection, as shown on plans;
- Install CA MUTCD-compliant “RxR” striping north of H Street for southbound traffic approaching the tracks.

For Hayes Street:

- Relocate northbound Commission Standard 9 warning device as shown on plans.
- Install CA MUTCD-compliant “RxR” striping south of Tehachapi Boulevard for northbound traffic approaching the tracks.

For Dennison Road:

- Install median-mounted Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning device for the south bound approach.
- Install CA MUTCD-compliant “RxR” striping south of Tehachapi Boulevard for northbound traffic lane approaching the tracks.
- Install R9-3 “NO PEDESTRIAN CROSSING” sign on the west side of the road where no sidewalk will be constructed;

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City 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 28, 2019, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs, ADA, and the current version of CA MUTCD, published by California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The City 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 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.”

UPRR must ensure that Emergency Notification Systems signs are installed to comply with CFR 234.309.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code §21084].

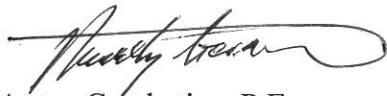
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with, or if the work is not completed, within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence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

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Cervantes at (213) 266-4716, or mci@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**
Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR

