

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



April 24, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020040003
North Avenue
City of Fresno, Fresno County

Taylor Smith, Manager of Public Projects
BNSF Railway
2454 Occidental Avenue South, Suite No. 1A
Seattle, Washington 98134

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the North Avenue At-Grade Highway–Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001B-209.10, and DOT No. 757394K, in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno.

Dear Mr. Smith:

This refers to your letter, dated February 25, 2020, received by us on March 18, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the North Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) tracks in the City of Fresno (City), County of Fresno. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001B-209.10, and DOT Crossing No. 757394K.

The North Avenue crossing configuration consists of two tracks, one main and one industrial (Miller Milling Industry Track), across the two-lane North Avenue roadway running east-west. This project is a joint venture between BNSF Railway (BNSF) and UPRR.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in BNSF request letter and/or shown on its plans, shall consist of:

- Installing a new additional track between the two existing tracks across North Avenue.
- Installing new railroad signal houses.
- Installing a new concrete panel crossing surface on Miller Milling Industry Track.
- Installing signage, striping, and “RXR” pavement markings compliant with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD).

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by BNSF and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As BNSF, UPRR, and the City agree to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, BNSF may proceed with the alterations as described in its request letter and attachments and summarized above. BNSF must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

UPRR must ensure that Emergency Notification System signs are installed to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 234.309.

Taylor Smith
XREQ 2020040003
April 24, 2020
Page 2 of 2

The City shall provide temporary traffic controls in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CAMUTCD, 2014 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the latest version of the CAMUTCD.

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

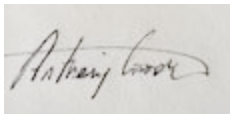
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence 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, BNSF and/or 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 Commission's 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 must submit an updated electronic inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. The Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires the railroads to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years.

If you have any questions, please contact Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or marvin.kennix@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Anton Garabetian, P.E.
Acting Program Manager
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc:

Jesus Avitia, City of Fresno
Douglas G. Woods, UPRR