

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



October 12, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020090018  
US Route 95  
Unincorporated San Bernardino County

Kate Kalinosky  
Manager Public Projects  
BNSF Railway Company  
740 E. Carnegie Drive  
San Bernardino, CA 92408

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the US Route 95 At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002-595.10 and DOT Crossing No. 026015P in an Unincorporated area of San Bernardino County.**

Dear Ms. Kalinosky:

This refers to your letter dated November 29, 2019, received by us on September 23, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the US Route 95 at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) Needles Subdivision tracks in an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002-595.10 and DOT Number 026015P.

The crossing is comprised of two sets of tracks and a two-lane roadway, with one traffic lane in each direction. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9A (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) warning devices. Approximately 84 BNSF freight trains and 2 passenger trains operate through the crossing daily, with a maximum speed of 70 miles per hour (MPH) and 79 MPH, respectively. The average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 3,460 vehicles.

BNSF, in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes the following alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Construct a third mainline track across US Route 95 north of the tracks, within the limits of the BNSF right of way.
- Relocate the curb-mounted Commission Standard 9A warning device in the Northwest quadrant and install guard rail to protect the new warning device.
- Relocate railroad signal house to the northeast quadrant.
- Re-profile the US Route 95 roadway alignment and cold mill the existing pavement between the BNSF Main Track 1 and BNSF Main Track 2.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 and W10-4 advance warning signs, and "RXR" and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by BNSF and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As BNSF and Caltrans are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the

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improvements as described in your request letter received by us on September 23, 2020, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the current version of the CA MUTCD, published by the Caltrans. BNSF and Caltrans must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

BNSF must ensure that Emergency Notification System signs are installed to comply with CFR Part 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].

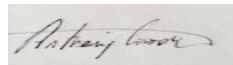
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with, or if the proposed project is not completed, within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must 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 BNSF 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 at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/>. This report may be submitted electronically to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto: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. RCEB requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or [sal@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:sal@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**  
Rebecca Guirado, California Department of Transportation