

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



July 28, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2015010010TE
Veterans Boulevard Overpass

Randall Morrison, P.E.
Public Works Assistant Director
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street, 4th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Time Extension Request for General Order 88-B Authorization XREQ2015010010 to Construct the Veterans Boulevard Grade-Separated (Overhead) Highway-Rail Crossing Over UPRR and CHSRA Tracks in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

This refers to your letter dated June 18, 2021, received by us on July 12, 2021, requesting an extension of time to comply with the provisions of the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B approval letter XREQ2015010010 issued on March 9, 2015. XREQ2015010010 authorized the construction of the Veterans Boulevard grade-separated (overhead) highway-rail crossing (crossing) over the existing Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) tracks and proposed California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) tracks in the City of Fresno (City), County of Fresno. The crossing shall be identified for the UPRR tracks as CPUC Crossing No. 001B-196.70-A and for the CHSRA tracks as CPUC Crossing No. 135S-183.21-A. Both sets of tracks shall share DOT Crossing No. 440861R.

The initial authorization issued on March 9, 2015, was scheduled to expire on March 8, 2018. The City requested an extension of time to complete the construction of the overhead grade separation via a letter received by the Commission's Rail Crossings & Engineering Branch (RCEB) on January 31, 2018. The City stated the time extension was necessary to redesign the overhead structure. The redesign involves changing the structure from a 3-span structure to a 2-span structure to provide for ease of maintenance and inspection, and relocation of high voltage electrical transmission lines. On February 20, 2018, RCEB granted the three-year time extension request to extend the time to complete the construction of the overhead grade separation. The authorization expired on March 8, 2021.

The City is requesting a second three-year time extension to complete the construction of the overhead grade separation. UPRR and CHSRA provided concurrence to the modification and time extension request.

RCEB investigated the time extension request and finds that there has been no substantial change in circumstances since granting the first-time extension request. RCEB has no objections to the requested extension.

In consideration of the above, the City is granted an extension of time to March 8, 2024. Upon written request to RCEB prior to the date of expiration, 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 another extension.

In all other respects, other than the revised sections of the plans incorporating redesign, the approval letter issued on March 9, 2015, shall remain in full force and effect.

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If you have any questions, please contact Marvin Kennix at (916) 597-5760 or email at mlk@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

Cc: Bruce Armistead, CHSRA
Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR