

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



October 11, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2021090009
Ellis Avenue
City of Perris, Riverside County

Kenneth Phung
Planning Manager
City of Perris
101 N. D Street
Perris, CA 92570

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Ellis Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 101PV-84.19 and DOT Crossing No. 027350V in the City of Perris, Riverside County.

Dear Mr. Phung:

This refers to your email received by us on September 20, 2021, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Ellis Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) Perris Valley Line in the City of Perris (City), Riverside County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 101PV-84.19 and DOT Number 027350V.

The crossing is comprised of one track and a three-lane roadway, with one westbound lane and two eastbound lanes. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted and three median-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices. Approximately 4 freight trains and 8 passenger trains operate through the crossing daily, with a maximum speed of 60 miles per hour. The average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 3290 vehicles.

The City proposes to widen the crossing by adding three vehicular lanes and alter it as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Remove all existing railroad warning devices.
- Reconstruct the traffic signal at the intersection of Ellis Avenue and Case Road with a pre-signal for eastbound traffic.
- Interconnect the traffic signal at Ellis Avenue and Case Road with the railroad warning devices, including advance preemption.
- Construct a dedicated right turn lane for westbound Ellis Avenue through the crossing separated by a raised concrete median and install one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device.
- Reconstruct the dedicated right turn lane for vehicles turning from northbound Case Road to Ellis Avenue, separated by a raised concrete median and install one curb-mounted and one median-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices.

- Install two median-mounted Commission Standard 9 and two median-mounted Commission Standard 9-E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning devices for the westbound Ellis Avenue through and left turn lanes.
- Install two median-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices for eastbound Ellis Avenue vehicular traffic.
- Install Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices, with front and back flashing lights, in combination with emergency egress swing gates, tactile warning strips, and pedestrian channelization at each approach on the north side of Ellis Avenue.
- Install pedestrian barricades for all sidewalk crossing approaches on the south side of Ellis Avenue.
- Remove existing raised concrete median and construct new 10-foot-wide raised concrete median.
- Install California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, “RXX” and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SCRRA 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 and summarized above are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and the current version of the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. The City must complete all of the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

SCRRA 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].

At least 45 days prior to the date that the new or modified interconnection is placed in service, the City and/or SCRRA shall notify RCEB by sending a notification to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

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 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 Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site

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at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, SCRRA 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.

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

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Elizabeth Lun, Southern California Regional Rail Authority
Clara Miramontes, City of Perris