

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



January 25, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2021110008
Cohansey Avenue
Gilroy, Santa Clara County

Gary Heap
City Engineer/Community Development Director
City of Gilroy
7351 Rosanna Street
Gilroy, CA 95020

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Cohansey Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001E-75.15 and DOT No. 755176W in the City of Gilroy, Santa Clara County.

Dear Mr. Heap:

This refers to your letter, dated September 9, 2021, received by us on December 9, 2021, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Cohansey Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track in the City of Gilroy (City), Santa Clara County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001E-75.15 and DOT No. 755176W.

Cohansey Avenue is a two-lane, southwest/northeast running road that spans one UPRR mainline track. The crossing is equipped with one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm), one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm), and one Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning devices. UPRR runs two freight trains per day at a maximum speed of 60 miles per hour over the crossing. Amtrak runs two passenger trains and Caltrain runs six passenger trains per day at a maximum speed of 79 miles per hour over the crossing. The average daily traffic on Cohansey Avenue is 300 vehicles.

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

- Replacing the Commission Standard 9 in the southwest quadrant with a new Commission Standard 9 warning device.
- Replacing the Commission Standard 9-A in the northeast quadrant with a new Commission Standard 9 warning device.
- Removing the Commission Standard 8 warning device in the northwest quadrant.
- Installing traffic signals at the Cohansey Avenue and Monterey Road intersection.
- Installing a pre-signal for westbound approach.
- Interconnecting the new traffic signals with the crossing warning devices.
- Installing advance railroad preemption.
- Installing crosswalks at the Cohansey Avenue and Monterey Road intersection.

- Installing NO RIGHT TURN active blank-out signs for the northbound approach.
- Applying the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the City and finds it adequately addresses public safety. As the City and UPRR agree as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the City may proceed with the alterations as described in its request letter and attachments and summarized above. The City 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.

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

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs 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].

At least 45 days prior to the date that the new or modified interconnection is placed in service, the City and/or UPRR shall notify RCEB by sending notification 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.

Within 30 days after completing this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is complete by submitting a Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirement can be obtained at the Commission website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not complete 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.

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If you have any questions, please contact Eyitejumade 'Ade' Sogbesan at (415) 471-6784 or Eyitejumade.Sogbesan@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR