

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



October 27, 2022

File Number: XREQ2022100003

Nathan Avenue  
Stanislaus County

Steve Stanhope  
Manager Diesel Shop  
Modesto & Empire Traction Co.  
641 S. McClure Road  
Modesto, CA 95357

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Nathan Avenue Rail Crossing**

Dear Steve Stanhope:

This refers to your letter dated September 2, 2022, received on October 3, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Nathan Avenue rail crossing (crossing) of the Modesto & Empire Traction Co. (MET) track, in Unincorporated Stanislaus County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 028-3.24-C and DOT Number 853815G.

The crossing is an east-west, two-lane roadway that consists of one track. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 1-R (Crossbuck Sign on a Post) warning devices.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by MET. As the County and MET agree on the alterations and apportionment of costs under the provisions of GO 88-B, the following alterations as described and specified in the request letter and its attachments are authorized:

- Remove the Commission Standard 1-R crossbuck signs on the northeast and southwest quadrants of the crossing and replace with two new Commission Standard 1-R warning devices with STOP signs.
- Install one W3-1 (STOP AHEAD) sign on each approach in advance of the crossbuck assemblies.
- Relocate the W1-1 (RIGHT TURN) sign on the northeast quadrant to the northwest quadrant.
- Install signage, striping, and "RXR" pavement markings compliant with the 2014 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD).

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD.

This authorization shall expire if the full scope of alterations is not complete within three years of the date of this letter. Modesto & Empire Traction Co. may request a time extension at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. The time extension request shall include evidence of agreement by involved

parties. This authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety requires.

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

The following requirements pertain to this authorization:

- The crossing shall have the configuration and operational characteristics as described and specified in the request letter and its attachments.
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, County and/or MET shall notify RCEB of the alterations by submitting a Form G to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov). Form G requirements and forms are available on the CPUC web site at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings>.
- MET shall electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA per 49 C.F.R. § 234.411(c).

If you have any questions, please contact Pablo Vargas at (916) 532-8807 or [pablo.vargas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:pablo.vargas@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

cc:

Andrew Malizia, Stanislaus County  
David A. Leamon, Stanislaus County