

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102



February 10, 2023

File Number: XREQ 2023010001  
Watkins Avenue  
Town of Atherton, San Mateo County

Stacy Cocke  
Director, Signal and Transmission Power  
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Boards  
1250 San Carlos Avenue  
San Carlos, CA 94070-1306

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

Dear Stacy Cocke:

This refers to your letter dated November 29, 2022, received by us on December 28, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (G.O.) 88-B, to alter the Watkins Avenue rail crossing (crossing) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Boards (Caltrain) tracks in the Town of Atherton (Town), County of San Mateo. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 105E-27.92 and DOT Number 754987S.

The crossing is a northeast-southwest, two-lane roadway that consists of two main tracks. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices and two Commission Standard 9 pedestrian warning devices.

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

- Install a two-speed check (2SC) system to replace the constant warning time crossing activation system.
- Replace the constant warning time devices (predictors) with audio frequency overlay equipment (AFTAC-II) and microprocessor-based equipment (ElectroLogIXS) with the traction power system.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (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. The Town and/or Caltrain may request a time extension at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. The time extension request shall include evidence of agreement by the involved parties. This authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety requires.

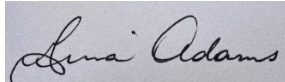
This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code §21084].

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.
- At least 45 days prior to the date that the new or modified train detection is placed in service, Caltrain shall notify RCEB of the scheduled date of the signal cutover by sending a notification to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, Town and/or Caltrain 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 website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings>.
- Caltrain shall electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (F.R.A.) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the F.R.A. per 49 C.F.R. § 234.411(c).

If you have any questions, please contact Eyitejumade “Ade” Sogbesan at (415) 703-1869 or [ES3@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ES3@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Gina Adams  
Program and Project Supervisor  
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch  
Rail Safety Division

cc: Robert Ovadia, Town of Atherton