

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



March 28, 2024

File Number: XREQ 2024020010
Parker Road
City of Modesto, Stanislaus County

Dionisio Martinez
Manager Public Projects
BNSF Railway Company
740 East Carnegie Drive
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Parker Road Rail Crossing

Dear Dionisio Martinez:

This refers to your letter dated December 12, 2023, received by us on February 26, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Parker Road rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway (BNSF) track, in the City of Modesto (City), County of Stanislaus. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002-1091.30 and DOT Number 028746C.

The crossing is an east-west, two-lane roadway that consists of one track. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by BNSF. As BNSF, the City, County, Caltrans, and Amtrak agree on the alterations and apportionment of cost 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 existing Commission Standard 9 warning devices on southwest and northeast quadrants.
- Install a second track east of the existing BNSF main line track.
- Install one CPUC Standard 9 warning device on the northeast quadrant.
- Install one median-mounted CPUC Standard 9 warning device in the southwest quadrant.
- Install one CPUC Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) warning device in the southwest quadrant.
- Install two CPUC Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning devices, one in each of the southeast and southwest quadrants.
- Construct Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant sidewalk through the crossing south of the roadway, including detectable warning surfaces.
- Reprofile the roadway surface.
- Install a new concrete panel crossing surface.
- Widen the existing 2-lane roadway and install a left turn lane for eastbound Parker Road towards northbound Santa Fe Avenue.
- Construct non-mountable medians on the crossing approaches.

- Install a streetlight east of the tracks.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including R8-8 “DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS” regulatory signs, and “KEEP CLEAR” pavement markings.

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. BNSF may request time extension to complete the project in writing to RCEB at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. The time extension request shall include evidence of agreement by involved parties. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so 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, BNSF shall notify RCEB of the alterations by submitting a Form G to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov. Form G requirements and forms are available on the CPUC web site at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings>.
- BNSF 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.

Sincerely,



Matthew Bond, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc: Cassim Mamoon, Amtrak
Betty Miller, Caltrans
Toby Wells, City of Modesto
Andrew Malizia, County of Stanislaus