

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



March 29, 2024

File Number: XREQ 2024030007

Rice Avenue

City of Oxnard, Ventura County

Debbie O'Leary  
Transportation Planner  
City of Oxnard  
305 West Third Street  
Oxnard, CA 93030

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Grade Separate the Rice Avenue Rail Crossing**

Dear Debbie O'Leary:

This refers to your letter dated March 20, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to grade separate the Rice Avenue at-grade rail crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Santa Barbara Subdivision track(s), in the City of Oxnard (City), County of Ventura.

The at-grade crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001E-406.25 and DOT Number 745855H. It is adjacent to intersecting roadway SR-34, which is within jurisdiction of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The proposed structure would also modify the southern segment of Rice Avenue that falls within the jurisdiction of Ventura County (County). The grade-separated crossing will be identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001E-406.30-A. and DOT Number 978102K.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by the City of Oxnard. As the City, Caltrans, County and UPRR 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:

- Construct a 100-foot-wide roadway consisting of 6 lanes and 10-foot wide sidewalk(s) above the tracks.
- Construct pier protection on each side of the UPRR tracks.
- Construct Rice Avenue/SR-34 connector road south of the grade-separated crossing.

The project proposes a minimum permanent vertical clearance of 24 feet 6 inches from the top of rail and a permanent horizontal clearance within 50 feet 3 inches from the centerline of the nearest track to the pier/abutment. No temporary clearance reductions are requested during construction. All proposed permanent clearances comply with minimum clearance requirements specified in Commission GO 26-D.

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 3 years of the date of this letter. The City 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 statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code 21080.13]

The following requirements pertain to this authorization:

- The crossing configuration and operational characteristics at each stage during construction shall be altered as described and specified in the request letter and the staging plan attachments.
- The at-grade crossing shall be eliminated by removing all pavement approaches, crossing surface, railroad signal equipment, traffic control devices and railroad warning devices upon the completion of grade-separated crossing.
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, City, Caltrans, County and/or UPRR 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>.
- UPRR 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 Oliver Garcia at (213) 369-4674 or [oliver.garcia@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:oliver.garcia@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

cc: Teresa McNamara, Caltrans  
Michael Wolfe, City of Oxnard  
Jeff Pratt, County of Ventura  
Kenneth Tom, Union Pacific Railroad