

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



July 18, 2024

File Number: XREQ 2024070001
Caldwell Avenue
Tulare CountyVanessa Nario
Associate Right of Way Agent
California Department of Transportation
2015 E. Shields Ave, Suite 100
Fresno, CA 93726**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Caldwell Avenue Grade-Separated Rail Crossing**

Dear Vanessa Nario:

This refers to your letter dated April 9, 2024, received by us on June 14, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Caldwell Avenue grade-separated rail crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Fresno Subdivision track, in the County of Tulare (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001B-243.30-A and DOT Number 756973R.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). As the County, Caltrans, 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:

- Replace the existing grade separated overhead structure and substructure to accommodate additional lanes and improved pedestrian access.

The project proposes a minimum permanent vertical clearance of 23 feet 7 inches from the top of rail and a permanent horizontal clearance of 52 feet 10 inches from the centerline of the track to the abutment. No temporary clearance reductions are requested during construction. All proposed 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. Caltrans 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:

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- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, Caltrans 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>.
- 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew Bond".

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

cc: Heather Franklin, Caltrans
Reed Schenke, Tulare County Resource Management Agency
Kenneth Tom, UP