

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 23, 2024

File Number: XREQ 20240800004

Avena Road

County of San Joaquin

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

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

Dear Dionisio Martinez:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on August 15, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Avena Road rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway (BNSF) track, in the County of San Joaquin (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002-1106.60 and DOT Number 028787G.

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 CPUC's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by BNSF. As the County and BNSF 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 second track east of the existing track, with a pre-cast concrete panel surface.
- Widen the roadway from 20 feet to 24 feet.
- Extend the existing crossing surface with new pre-cast concrete panels to accommodate the roadway widening.
- Relocate the existing Standard 9 warning devices 15 feet from the centerline of the existing track and the proposed new track to accommodate the road widening and additional track.
- Reconstruct the roadway approaches on both sides of the crossing.
- Construct raised curbs in all quadrants.
- Install California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and 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 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, 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 David Stewart at (415) 806-0490 or David.Stewart@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Jeffrey Levers, T.E., County of San Joaquin