

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Consumer Protection and Safety Division Rail Transit Safety Section	Resolution ST-81 October 27, 2005
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RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION ST-81 GRANTING APPROVAL OF THE BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT'S SAFETY CERTIFICATION PLAN FOR THE EARTHQUAKE SAFETY PROJECT.

Summary

This resolution grants the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) request for the approval of its Safety Certification Plan (SCP) for the Earthquake Safety Project (ESP).

Background

General Order 164-C, Rules and Regulations Governing State Safety Oversight of Rail Fixed Guideway Systems, requires Rail Fixed Guideway Systems to prepare a project specific SCP for each major project and ensure that all entities involved in design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the project shall comply with the requirements of the SCP. The SCP ensures that elements critical to the safety are planned, designed, constructed, analyzed, tested, inspected, implemented, training provided and rules and procedures followed. At the end of the project a written Safety Certification Verification Report (SCVR) report is required by CPUC General Order 164-C. The SCVR shall be submitted to CPUC staff upon project completion. The SCVR is reviewed by CPUC staff and an approval letter is sent to the transit agency if the SCVR is acceptable.

On August 23, 2005, BART submitted the SCP for the Earthquake Safety Project to CPUC staff for review. On September 14, 2005, BART submitted a letter to CPUC staff requesting the Commission's approval for the SCP. This is a comprehensive seismic retrofit program in anticipation of a potential future major earthquake. The project identifies seismic retrofits at selected locations along the original BART system; including, 34 BART stations and 71.5 miles of double track on the Richmond to Fremont and Concord to Daly City train routes. BART states that the

Dublin/Pleasanton (DPX), Pittsburg/Antioch (PAX) and the San Francisco Airport (SFO) extensions are seismically safe; therefore, seismic retrofitting is not necessary.

Notices

Notice of the filing was made in the CPUC Daily Calendar, August 25, 2005.

Protests

None.

Discussion

BART worked with CPUC staff to ensure the SCP is comprehensive and meets the intent of General Order 164-C. The ESP will not alter the existing operational safety features of the BART system but will enhance and upgrade the overall safety of BART's system through its seismic retrofit work. The SCP will ensure safe operations and public safety during construction. The safety certification activities include site specific work plans (SSWPs) and interim operational plans (IOPs) for areas identified for the retrofit work. BART's Hazard Analysis Review Committee (HRAC) and BART's System Safety Department will review the plans to determine and verify the appropriate mitigating safety measures. Mitigating measures include rules and procedures to address the identified hazards. BART shall file any revisions to the SCP with CPUC staff for review and approval.

BART shall provide CPUC staff periodic quarterly progress update reports which include certificates completed, audit activities performed, problems encountered, outstanding issues to be resolved, progress on resolving identified problems, overall certification progress to date and planned activities for the next phase.

Comments

This is an uncontested matter in which the resolution grants the relief requested. Therefore, pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 311(g)(2),

the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is being waived.

Findings

1. On August 23, 2005, BART submitted the Earthquake Safety Project SCP to CPUC staff for review.
2. On September 14, 2005, BART's letter requested the Commission's approval for the SCP.
3. The ESP will enhance and upgrade the overall safety of BART's current aerial structures through its seismic retrofit work.
4. The project identifies seismic retrofits at selected locations along the original BART system; including, 34 BART stations and 71.5 miles of double track on the Richmond to Fremont and Concord to Daly City train routes.
5. BART extensions such as the Dublin/Pleasanton (DPX), Pittsburg/Antioch (PAX) and the San Francisco Airport (SFO) are seismically safe; therefore, seismic retrofitting is not necessary.
6. The SCP will ensure safe operations and public safety during the seismic retrofit work through the development of SSWPs and IOPs.
7. The HRAC and BART's Safety Department will review the SSWPs and IOPs to determine and verify the appropriateness of the mitigations to address the safety hazards.

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) request for approval of its Safety Certification Plan (SCP) for the Earthquake Safety Project is granted.

2. BART shall submit revisions to the SCP to CPUC staff for review and approval.
3. BART shall provide CPUC staff periodic quarterly progress reports which include certificates completed audit activities performed, problems encountered, outstanding issues to be resolved, progress on resolving identified problems, overall certification progress to date and planned activities for the next phase.
4. BART shall submit a written Safety Certification Verification Report to CPUC staff upon project completion.
5. This resolution is effective today.

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting held on October 27, 2005.

/s/ STEVE LARSON _____
STEVE LARSON
Executive Director

MICHAEL R. PEEVEY
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