

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Consumer Protection and Safety Division
Rail Transit and Crossings Branch
Rail Crossings Engineering Section

RESOLUTION SX-77
February 15, 2007

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION SX-77 AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY DEVIATION FROM GENERAL ORDER 26-D, SECTION 2.1, ALLOWING THE CITY OF COACHELLA TEMPORARY OVERHEAD CLEARANCE OF NOT LESS THAN 21 FEET ABOVE THE TOP OF THE HIGHEST RAIL AT THE PROPOSED DILLON ROAD OVERPASS BRIDGE STRUCTURE (CPUC CROSSING NO. 001B-613.00-A).

SUMMARY

The City of Coachella (City), by letter dated November 2, 2006, requests authority, pursuant to General Order (GO) 88-B, to grade-separate the existing at-grade crossing of Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) Yuma Subdivision and Dillon Road in the City of Coachella, County of Riverside, CPUC Crossing No. 001B-613.00. The grade-separated crossing number will be 001B-613.00-A. By a letter dated December 5, 2006, the City requests authority, pursuant to GO 26-D, Section 16.2, for a temporary deviation from the requirements of Section 2.1 of GO 26-D, which requires a minimum overhead clearance above railroad tracks of 22 feet 6 inches. This resolution authorizes a deviation for a temporary overhead clearance of 21 feet above the top of the highest rail during the construction of the Dillon Road Overhead Structure.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The City proposed alteration will consist of constructing an overhead structure to grade-separate the existing Dillon Road at-grade highway-rail crossing. The City is requesting an exemption from GO 26-D to build a temporary false-work structure, during construction period only, beneath the bridge structure and over

the track area with a temporary overhead clearance of 21 feet above the top of the highest rail. UP has indicated that it does not object to the temporary deviation.

This is an uncontested matter in which the resolution grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 311(g)(2) of the Public Utilities Code and Rule 14.6(c)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is waived.

FINDINGS

1. The City requested a temporary deviation from GO 26-D, Section 2.1, which requires a minimum overhead clearance of 22 feet 6 inches from top or rail to lowest point of overhead structure, for the construction of the Dillon Road Overhead grade-separation bridge structure.
2. The City requested a temporary deviation with overhead clearance of 21 feet above the top of the highest rail to build a temporary false-work structure beneath the bridge structure and over the track area.
3. By email dated November 20, 2006, UP's Senior Manager of Industry & Public Projects reviewed and concurred with City's request for a temporary minimum overhead clearance of 21 feet over UP tracks passing beneath the Dillon Road Overhead Structure.
4. The Commission staff has reviewed the City's request and finds that the request is a safe and reasonable temporary alternative to the minimum overhead clearance specified in Section 2.1 of GO 26-D and has merit.
5. The staff recommends that this resolution be adopted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

Pursuant to Section 16.2 of General Order (GO) 26-D, the City of Coachella (City) is granted a temporary deviation from GO 26-D, Section 2.1 and is authorized a temporary overhead clearance of not less than 21 feet above the top of the highest rail to the lowest of point on the overhead structure, during the period of construction of the Dillon Road Overhead structure, to replace the existing at-grade Dillon Road highway-rail crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001B-613.00, over

Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) Yuma Subdivision Main Line tracks in the City of Coachella, County of Riverside.

The following requirements shall apply to the temporary deviation to GO 26-D, Section 2.1:

1. UP shall issue instructions to all individuals responsible for operation of trains over these tracks of the temporary reduced clearance of 21 feet beneath the Dillon Road Overhead structure, and shall submit the instructions in advance of the date when the City will create the temporary overhead clearance to the Los Angeles office of the Commission's Consumer Protection and Safety Division - Rail Operations Safety Branch (ROSB) and Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES).
2. The City shall notify UP and the Los Angeles office of ROSB and RCES at least 15 days but not more than 30 days in advance of the date when the City will create the temporary overhead clearance.

This resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed, and adopted by the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 15, 2007. The following Commissioners voted favorably thereon:

STEVE LARSON
Executive Director

MICHAEL R. PEEVEY
President
DIAN M. GRUENEICH
JOHN A. BOHN
RACHELLE B. CHONG
Commissioners

