

Decision 26-05-019 May 14, 2026

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the City of Palmdale to construct at-grade crossing modifications at State Route 138 (DOT # 750603S and CPUC #101VY-68.40) for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority and 001B-413.70 for the Union Pacific Railroad within the County of Los Angeles.

Application 24-05-012

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to October 30, 2026.

1. Background and Justification

Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code § 1701.5(a) provides that the Commission shall resolve the issues raised in the scoping memo of a ratesetting proceeding within 18 months of the date the proceeding is initiated unless the Commission makes a written determination that the deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending the deadline. The current statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding is May 31, 2026.

On May 9, 2024, The City of Palmdale filed Application (A.) 24-05-012 to construct at-grade crossing modifications at State Route 138 (DOT #750603S and

CPUC # 101VY-68.40 for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority and 001B-413.70 for the Union Pacific Railroad) within the County of Los Angeles.

On June 14, 2024, the Commission's Railroad Safety Division filed a response and Union Pacific Railroad Company filed a protest to the Application. On June 25, 2024, in compliance with the assigned Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) Ruling, the parties filed a Joint Prehearing Statement.

The assigned ALJ conducted a Prehearing Conference on August 27, 2024, to address the issues of law and fact, determine the need for hearing, set the schedule for resolving the matter, and address other matters as necessary.

On September 23, 2024, the assigned Commissioner issued a scoping memo and ruling which set forth the issues, need for evidentiary hearing, schedule, and other necessary matters.

On October 30, 2025, Decision 25-10-051 extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding to May 31, 2026.

The parties filed a motion to approve a settlement agreement on March 20, 2026. The Commission's Rail Safety Division filed a response on April 9, 2026, at which time the matter was submitted leaving insufficient time to review the settlement agreement and draft the proposed decision to meet the agenda deadlines for a Commission vote by the May 31, 2026 deadline. Consequently, an extension of the statutory deadline until October 30, 2026, is necessary and appropriate.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may waive the otherwise applicable 30-day period

for public review and comment on a decision that extends the 18-month deadline set forth in Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5. Under the circumstances of this proceeding, it is appropriate to waive the 30-day period for public review and comment.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Matthew Baker is the assigned Commissioner and Leah Goldberg is the assigned Administrative Law Judge and the presiding officer in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. A.24-05-012 was filed on May 9, 2024.
2. The current statutory deadline for resolving A.24-05-012 is May 31, 2026.
3. A.24-05-012 cannot be completed by May 31, 2026.
4. An extension of the statutory deadline until October 30, 2026, is necessary to allow adequate time to complete this proceeding.

Conclusion of Law

1. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code Section 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline should be extended to October 30, 2026.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline for completion of this proceeding is extended until October 30, 2026.

This order is effective today.

Dated May 14, 2026, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN REYNOLDS
President

DARCIE L. HOUCK
KAREN DOUGLAS
MATTHEW BAKER
CHRISTINE HARADA
Commissioners