

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4TH STREET, SUITE 500, LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



February 23, 2026

ENVR 20260200002

Russ Henry
Program Manager
LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency
600 South Main Street
Orange, CA 92863

Re: Orcutt Left Hand Crossover SCH [2026010742](#) – Notice of Exemption (NOE)

Dear Russ Henry,

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) has jurisdiction over rail crossings (crossings) in California. The CPUC ensures that crossings are safely designed, constructed, and maintained. The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) is in receipt of the *Notice of Exemption (NOE)* for the Orcutt Left Hand Crossover Project (Project). The Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN) is the lead agency.

The project site is located within Milepost 249.8-250.2 of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Coast Subdivision in the City of San Luis Obispo, CA. The proposed Project Creates a universal crossover near San Luis Obispo Amtrak Station to provide operational flexibility to run additional trains and introduce a more regular passenger rail service along the Central Coast.

The proposed Project is located approximately 0.15 miles (818 feet) north of the [Orcutt Road](#) at-grade railroad crossing (crossing) (DOT# 745358F, CPUC# 001E-249.95). The crossing consists of a 4-lane paved asphalt roadway with curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A and median-mounted Commission Standard 9 automatic warning devices. It is also equipped with pedestrian sidewalks that cross the tracks on the north and south sides of the road. A pedestrian/bike trail, the "SLO Railroad Safety Trail", runs north and parallel along the east limit of the UPRR right-of-way and has a terminus and entrance along the north sidewalk adjacent to the crossing.

LOSSAN should investigate the impact of additional train traffic anticipated through the crossing and any necessary upgrades to mitigate this increase, such as but not limited to installation of additional fencing, pedestrian gates and channelization. Additionally, traffic and queuing analysis should be performed to see if queue mitigation is needed due to the close proximity of the Laurel Lane/Bullock Lane intersection just east of the crossing and should also bring the crossing up to current standards and in compliance with ADA requirements.

Any proposed crossing modifications will require authorization from the CPUC through a [General Order 88-B request](#) and must also conform to the goals of the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan. This includes improving safety and access to transportation, improving local air quality and public health, and expanding outreach and public participation opportunities in disadvantaged communities. For more information, please visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/esjactionplan>.

RCEB staff is available to discuss any potential safety impacts or concerns at the crossings and address any questions from LOSSAN.

Russ Henry
ENVR 20260200002
February 23, 2026

If you have any questions, please contact Oliver Garcia at (213) 369-4674, or Oliver.Garcia@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Anh Truong, PE
Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor)
Rail Crossings Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc: State Clearinghouse, state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Whitney McDonald, City Manager, City of San Luis Obispo, wmcdonald@slocity.org
Kenneth Tom, Manager Public Projects, UPRR, ktom@up.com