**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON**

**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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| In the Matter of the Application of  Western Washington Railroad,  Applicant,  Requesting Disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )  )  ) | DOCKET TR-143595  ORDER 01  ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND |

BACKGROUND

1. On July 1, 2013, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) sent to various interested parties a “Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Grant Monies from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund” in Docket TR-131246.
2. On September 30, 2014, Western Washington Railroad (WWR) filed with the Commission an application requesting a disbursement of $3684.60 from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) to pay for a project related to installation of no trespassing signs.
3. WWR seeks to install no trespassing signs at 36 locations on their railroad line in Thurston and Lewis counties. Specific information about each location is contained in WWR’s GCPF application and in the attached Appendix A.
4. The installation of no trespassing signs will improve safety by notifying the public that they are in potential danger on private railroad property and can be prosecuted. Railroad personnel have seen increasing trespassing in the areas listed in Appendix A.
5. WWR seeks $3684.60 to pay for the cost of the no trespassing signs. WWR will contribute the labor to install the signs. There currently are funds available to pay for the project.
6. WWR must also meet the following conditions for administering the GCPF grant.

* Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed $3684.60.
* The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.
* WWR must sign and return the attached project agreement.
* Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
* The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than May 30, 2015.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

1. (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington having authority to approve and administer disbursements from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. RCW 81.53.271; RCW 81.53.281.
2. (2) The project for which WWRseeks disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund is eligible for funding consideration under Commission rules and complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271, RCW 81.53.281, and WAC 480-62.
3. (3) Commission Staff investigated the request based on the review criteria specified in the Commission’s rules and recommended that it be granted, subject to specified conditions for administering the grant.

Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed $3684.60.

The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.

WWR must sign and return the attached project agreement.

Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.

The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than May 30, 2015.

1. (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 30, 2014.
2. (5) After reviewing WWR’s application filed on September 18, 2014, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds.

O R D E R

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

1. Western Washington Railroad’s application for disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund for installation of no trespassing signs on their railroad line in Thurston and Lewis counties is granted, subject to the following conditions:
   1. Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed $3684.60.
   2. The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.
   3. Western Washington Railroad must sign and return the attached project agreement.
   4. Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
   5. The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than May 30, 2015.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective October 30, 2014.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary