



CITY COUNCIL  
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Cherie Rodgers  
Council Member  
District 3

March 19, 2004

Carole J. Washburn, Commission Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr.  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE Docket No. 040551

Dear Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission:

As past Chair and current member of the City of Spokane Public Safety Committee, it is my duty to assess potential dangers in our community. For over a year, I have followed the Remote Control Locomotive (RCL) issue and submitted comments to the Commission as to my position regarding the use of RCL operations. My comments are based on research available from the Department of Transportation (Docket Management System), direct observation of RCL operations in Spokane, discussions with local railroad representatives, and documented accidents involving RCL operations. Further, I have attempted contact with the Regional Office of the Federal Railroad Administration and have not received any response as to my concerns regarding RCL operations.

With this in mind, I am in support of state rulemaking providing general point protection of railroad operations as described in the WUTC notice of February 20, 2004. I commend the Commission for their vision and courage to provide our communities protection for the dangers of railroad operations.

Respectfully,

Cherie Rodgers  
City Council Member, District 3