



STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

August 23, 2004

The Honorable Jim White
Mayor, City of Kent
220 Fourth Avenue South
Kent, WA 98032

Re: Docket No. TR-990653
Train Speeds in the City of Kent

Dear Mayor White:

On July 29, 2004, the Commission received a copy of a letter mailed by The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Co. (BNSF) to Don Wickstrom, Director of Public Works for the city of Kent. The letter constitutes a petition filed pursuant to WAC 480-62-155 (2) (c) to raise train speeds in Kent by eliminating remaining conditions set in an order entered in Commission Docket No. TR-990653. Copies of the order, letter, and pertinent WAC provisions are enclosed for your reference.

BNSF is entitled to file the petition pursuant to RCW 81.04.200: more than two years have elapsed since entry of the original order, and circumstances have changed as mentioned in the BNSF letter. Accordingly, this matter is being set for consideration at the Commission open meeting scheduled for September 22, 2004.

In the near future, Commission Staff will investigate the circumstances in the city to make a recommendation about whether an essentially local safety condition exists. If you have concerns, you may file a response with the Commission. We also invite you to participate with Commission Staff in performing its investigation. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Rowswell, Rail Safety Manager, at 360-664-1265.

Sincerely,

Carole J. Washburn
Executive Secretary

Enclosures

cc: Ron Jackson, BNSF

