

W A S H I N G T O N



UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

## Memorandum

February 7, 2011

To: TR-100200 - File

From: Kathy Hunter, Deputy Assistant Director Transportation Safety

Subject: TR-100200 Clark County  
Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) Project to install 83 "No  
Trespassing" signs along the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad Tracks

On April 29, 2009, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) awarded a GCPF grant totaling \$9,184 to install 83 "No Trespassing" signs along the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad. The Chelatchie Prairie railroad tracks are 33 miles in length and pass through the cities of Vancouver and Battleground, the town of Yacolt and unincorporated Chelatchie Prairie. Clark County, the applicant, originally applied for a disbursement from the GCPF for \$20,000, however on April 12, 2010, Clark County amended their application to exclude labor costs.

On February 7, 2011, the applicant, Clark County submitted a request for reimbursement pursuant to Commission order. On November 18, 2010, Commission staff conducted a site visit and verified that the project was completed according to the specifications outlined in the order approving the grant. See attached staff memo dated November 23, 2010, prepared by Paul Curl.

Please close this docket.

Attachment

November 23, 2010

To: Kathy Hunter

From: Paul Curl

Subject: Clark County GCPF, TR-100200

On November 18, 2010, I visited Clark County to verify installation of "No Trespassing" signs in accordance with the order and project agreement in Docket No. TR-100200. The county indicated to me that all the signs were installed at public grade crossings and that there were two signs (one in each direction) at each crossing. In lieu of verifying the installation of all 83 signs along 33 miles of track, I selected public grade crossings in the Yacolt area as a sample.

In order to develop a reasonable sample, I asked the county to send me a list, from its records, of all public crossings in or near the city of Yacolt. The county provided a list of ten crossings. I cross-checked the county's list with the UTC rail database and found a match for nine of the ten crossings. I used the nine which appeared on both inventories as my sample.

The grant covered approximately 69% of the public crossings along the Chelatchie Prairie line. The county, in its project description, indicated that the signs would be installed in the areas of greatest potential trespassing based on population density, accessibility to the public, previous calls for assistance, and trespassing incidents. In my sample, I expected to find two signs at a minimum of six or seven of the nine public crossings in the Yacolt area which would indicate a 67% to 78% installation rate.

I checked all nine crossings in my sample and found two signs at eight of the crossings, resulting in an installation rate of 89%. Based on this finding, I conclude that the county is in compliance with the order and project agreement in this docket.

CCCP RAILWAY  
DANGER  
TRAINS APPROACH  
WITHOUT WARNING  
NO  
TRESPASSING  
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11/18/2010



11/18/2010



CCCP RAILWAY  
DANGER!  
TRAINS APPROACH  
WITHOUT WARNING  
NO  
TRESPASSING

11/18/2010



CROSSROAD

CLARK COUNTY  
852 384 N  
U.S. DOT - AAR

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TRACKS

11/18/2010