

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	)	DOCKET TR-080398
	)	
SKYKOMISH SCHOOL DISTRICT	)	ORDER 01
#404,	)	
	)	
Applicant,	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR
Requesting Disbursement from the	)	DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE
Grade Crossing Protective Fund	)	CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On August 7, 2007, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) sent a “Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Grant Monies from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund” in Docket TR-071597 to various interested parties from the public and private sectors that were eligible to apply for Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) grants.
- 2 On February 28, 2008, the Skykomish School District #404 (or the Applicant) filed with the Commission an application requesting a disbursement of \$20,000 from the GCPF to pay for a project related to safety and trespass prevention. The total cost of the project is \$60,500. Costs exceeding \$20,000 will be paid by the Town of Skykomish and the BNSF Railroad.
- 3 The Skykomish School District seeks to install 550 feet of fencing to create a barrier between the Skykomish School and nearby rail facilities. The fencing will be installed on the Town of Skykomish property immediately adjacent to the railroad tracks. The west end of the fencing will be tied into a proposed wastewater collection facility. The east end of the fencing will be incorporated with proposed pedestrian improvements on the 5<sup>th</sup> and Railroad Avenue railroad crossing.
- 4 The Skykomish School is located right next to the BNSF Railway (BNSF) main line. Often, students from the school trespass across the railroad tracks to get to and from the school, as a shortcut. Installation of the new fencing will make it very difficult for students to continue to use this area as a shortcut. The Town of Skykomish will be responsible for the long-term maintenance of the fencing.

5 A site visit by Commission Staff confirmed that the safety problem described by the  
Skykomish School District exists and that the proposed fencing installation will reduce  
trespass incidents.

6 The Skykomish School District seeks \$20,000 to pay for the cost of the fencing project.  
There currently are funds available to pay for the project.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

7 (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](#).

8 (2) The project for which the Skykomish School District seeks 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](#).

9 (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.

10 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on  
April 30, 2008.

11 (5) After reviewing the Skykomish School District's application filed on February 28,  
2008, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause  
shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds.

### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

12 The Skykomish School District #404 application for disbursement from the Grade  
Crossing Protective Fund for safety and trespass prevention in Skykomish, Washington,  
near 105 6<sup>th</sup> Street North, is granted, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed  
\$20,000.

- (2) The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.
- (3) The Skykomish School District #404 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 August 30, 2008.

The Commissioners have delegated authority to the Executive Secretary to enter this Order pursuant to [RCW 80.01.030](#) and [WAC 480-07-904\(\(1\)\(a\)\)](#).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective April 30, 2008.

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary