

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal

The proposed **Stanwood Siding Extension and Crossover Project** will extend the existing BNSF Stanwood Siding and includes switching and signal improvements to improve capacity, efficiency and safety for both freight and passenger trains.

The proposed project will also install a crossover on the existing BNSF Railway main line tracks just south of 102nd Ave NW (also known as Old Pacific Highway). The crossover will allow a passenger train and a freight train to use the siding simultaneously while a third train passes on the main track. Once the third train passes, the passenger train can then pass the freight train.

Another element of the proposed project will eliminate the at-grade rail crossing at 292nd St NW (also known as Logen Road). The extended siding will be used for freight and passenger trains to meet and pass, which would cause trains to sometimes be parked on the siding and block the crossing for extended periods of time. Two nearby alternate routes connecting to the Pacific and Pioneer highways will provide vehicle access to Stanwood and I-5.

As part of the at-grade crossing closure, the project will also make grade crossing signal improvements at 271st St NW, 300th St NW and 102nd Ave NW (also known as Old Pacific Highway, adjacent to Pioneer Highway).

This proposed project will reduce potential train backup and delay on public road crossings and will improve service and safety for the new Amtrak station being built in Stanwood.

Proponent

BNSF Railway Company
Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

Location of proposal, including street address, if any

The proposed project is located north of the City of Stanwood in Snohomish County, in Township 32N, Range 3E, portions of Sections 12 and 13, and Township 32N, Range 4E, portions of Sections 19 and 24. Track improvements will begin approximately 2300 feet south of 292nd St NW (also known as Logen Road) and extend north to approximately 2200 feet north of 102nd Ave NW (also known as Old Pacific Highway).

Lead agency

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

For engineering questions, please contact:
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For environmental questions, please contact:
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The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below.

Comments must be submitted by **August 4, 2009**.

Please send comments to:
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Responsible official: Scott Witt
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Address: PO Box 47407
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Date

July 21, 2009

Signature

