## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CASCADE AND COLUMBIA RIVER	)	DOCKET NO. TR-041076
RAILROAD,	)	
	)	ORDER NO. 03
Petitioner,	)	
v.	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING REQUEST
CHELAN COUNTY,	)	TO WITHDRAW PETITION
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	
	)	

- SYNOPSIS: This Order grants the request of Cascade and Columbia River Railroad to withdraw its petition to close a highway-rail grade crossing in Chelan Falls, Washington.
- 2 NATURE OF PROCEEDING. Docket No. TR-041076 is an application by the Cascade and Columbia River Railroad ("Cascade" or "the Railroad") for closure of the "A" street rail grade crossing in Chelan Falls, Washington.
- APPEARANCES. Louis Chernak, attorney, Wenatchee, Washington, represents Chelan County. Buck D. Workman, Vice-President, Omak, Washington, represents Cascade. Jonathan C. Thompson, Assistant Attorney General, Olympia, Washington, represents the Commission's regulatory staff ("Commission Staff" or "Staff").
- 4 **MEMORANDUM.** The Railroad filed its petition to close the grade crossing at "A" Street in Chelan Falls on June 14, 2004. The Commission convened a prehearing conference on the petition on April 6, 2004, at which time the parties stated that it was likely that if funding and materials could be found to install safety protection devices at the crossing, the matter could be resolved without

hearing. The parties requested a delay in the scheduled evidentiary hearing until November 2005 to allow time to procure the required devices and to install them and possibly eliminate the need for a hearing.

- On October 24, 2005, the Railroad sent a letter to the Commission stating that most of the equipment needed to provide the safety devices had been found and that the remainder would be acquired in the coming months. The Railroad stated it was confident that, once the devices were installed, the "A" Street crossing would be adequately protected and the Railroad's safety concerns would be alleviated. The Railroad requested that the Commission grant approval of the request to withdraw the petition to close the "A" Street crossing.
- DISCUSSION AND DECISION. We approve the Railroad's request to withdraw its petition. The Railroad's statement that installation of grade crossing protective devices, which will alleviate safety concerns, is progressing toward completion, and will, in fact, be completed, assures us that the public interest would be served if we were to approve the withdrawal of the petition now. If the installation should fail to be completed within six months of this order, we expect the Railroad to file a petition to signalize the crossing.

## **ORDER**

THE COMMISSION Approves the withdrawal of Cascade's petition to close the "A" Street rail grade crossing in Chelan Falls, Washington, and directs that a petition to signalize the crossing be filed if installation of protective devices is not completed within six months of the date of this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27th day of October, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

NOTICE TO PARTIES: This is a final order of the Commission. In addition to judicial review, administrative relief may be available through a petition for reconsideration, filed within 10 days of the service of this order pursuant to RCW 34.05.470 and WAC 480-07-850, or a petition for rehearing pursuant to RCW 80.04.200 or RCW 81.04.200 and WAC 480-07-870.