**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE**

**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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| In the Matter of the Application ofCLARK COUNTY,Petitioner, Requesting Amendment to Project funded from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | )))))))))))) | DOCKET TR-111584ORDER 02ORDER GRANTING AMENDMENT TO PETITION AND ORDER 01 AND EXTENDING TIME TO COMPLETE PROJECT AND SUBMIT REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT  |

BACKGROUND

1. On November 4, 2011, Clark County (Clark County or Petitioner) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission), a petition seeking approval to modify active warning devices at railroad-highway grade crossings. On November 8, 2011, Clark County filed a revised petition with updated crossing and cost information. The Petitioner requested the Commission authorize an expenditure of $19,684.54 from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) to pay for a portion of the upgrades with Clark County paying for all costs exceeding the grant amount.
2. The warning devices at the crossings are outlined in the GCPF application submitted by the Clark County. The Petitioner proposes to upgrade incandescent lights to LED lamp assemblies at ten crossings. The crossings are listed on Appendix A of Order 01. These upgrades will improve the overall safety at the crossing because LED flashing lights will provide greater visibility for the motoring public.
3. On November 22, 2011, the Commission issued Order 01 granting the petition to modify highway-rail grade crossing active warning devices and authorizing expenditure from the GCPF for the proposed upgrades. The Order required Clark County to complete the project and submit the associated request for reimbursement by August 1, 2012.
4. On May 3, 2012, Clark County submitted an amended petition. Prices for the LED lights came in substantially lower than Clark County initially estimated; therefore, the Petitioner requested to include two additional crossings with older incandescent bulbs in the proposed upgrades. These crossings would require an additional 34 LED lights. Clark County also requested the purchase of eight LED lights to have on hand for maintenance purposes. Clark County requested additional time to complete the project and asked for an extension until November 1, 2012.
5. Commission staff supports upgrading the 34 LED lights at the two crossings, but does not support the eight LED lights that the Petitioner would like to keep on hand for maintenance purposes. Staff must be able to verify that grant funds were spent according to the project agreement, and would have no way to monitor or verify how the additional LED lights were used outside of the project period.
6. Because of the savings on the LED lights, the cost of the upgrades, with the additional 34 lights, is lower than the original approved grant amount of $19,684.54. The revised grant amount is $18,600.98.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

1. (1) After reviewing Clark County’s request, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the amendment to the GCPF petition and Order 01 previously approved and reduces the grant amount to $18,600.98. The Commission also grants an extension of time to complete the project to December 31, 2012.
2. (2) The grade crossings outlined in the attached Appendix A are public railroad-highway grade crossings located within the state of Washington.

O R D E R

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

1. The request of Clark County to amend its GCPF petition and Order 01, relating to the upgrades of active warning devices at railroad-highway grade crossings located in Clark County, is granted subject to the following conditions:
	1. Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed $18,600.98.
	2. The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the revised application.
	3. Clark County must sign and return the attached revised project agreement by May 31, 2012.
	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 December 31, 2012.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 16, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary

**NOTICE:** This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least fourteen (14) days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission’s Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission’s Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-904(2) and (3).