

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN)	
SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY)	DOCKET NO. TR-011420
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION
)	TO UPGRADE WARNING
)	DEVICES AT BROWN ROAD
vs.)	
)	D.O.T. 089636J
LINCOLN COUNTY)	
)	W.U.T.C. 1B 35.90
Respondent)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On October 18, 2001, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company filed a petition with the Commission, seeking authority to upgrade warning devices at a highway-rail grade crossing. The crossing is located at the intersection of Brown Road and the Petitioner's tracks, in the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 9, Township 21 N, Range 39 E, W.M, in Lincoln County. Funding for the upgrades is pursuant to the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act in cooperation with the Washington State Department of Transportation.
- 2 Respondent has consented to an entry of an order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

DISCUSSION

- 3 In the vicinity of the crossing, Brown Road is classified as a rural local road, with one lane for each direction of traffic and a speed limit of 50 MPH. Average daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 50 vehicles, including 37 trucks and 4 school bus trips. Daily traffic through the crossing in 10 years is expected to reach 100 vehicles.
- 4 Respondent maintains a single main track through the crossing. Daily train traffic averages two passenger trains and 25 freight trains. The maximum timetable speed for trains in the vicinity is 79 MPH.
- 5 Warning devices at the crossing consist of standard crossbuck and advance warning signs. Petitioner proposes to upgrade warning devices at the crossing through the installation of shoulder-mounted flashing light signals and gates. The installations are being proposed in the interest of enhancing safety for the motoring public.

6 Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted,
subject to specified conditions.

7 The Commissioners have reviewed the petition and have been fully advised in the
matter. They believe that granting the petition, subject to the conditions set forth
below, is in the public interest, and direct the Secretary to issue the Order.

ORDER

8 THE COMMISSION GRANTS the petition of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe
Railway Company to upgrade warning devices at a highway-rail grade crossing
located at the intersection of Brown Road and the petitioner's tracks in Lincoln
County, Washington, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The installations must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
- (2) All traffic control devices must be installed in such a manner as to provide required clearances for both rail and vehicular traffic.
- (3) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
- (4) Upon completion of the installations authorized herein, Petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the installations are subject to a compliance inspection by Commission Staff, verifying that the changes are in full compliance with law, regulation, and the conditions specified herein.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 12th Day of December, 2001.

THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary