



WATCO

COMPANIES, INC.
"Your Transportation Specialists"

November 21, 2005

TR-051841 (P)

Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Petition for Exemption

Dear Ms. Washburn:

The Palouse River and Coulee City Railroad (PCC) requests an exemption from WAC 480-62-230(2), which adopted MUTCD traffic control standards, as it applies to the requirement for cross-bucks at several railroad-grade crossings in Spokane County.

The PCC operated over tracks in Spokane County that included the following crossings:

- McFarlane Road, USDOT #066341C
- Meadow Lake Bridge Road, USDOT #066322X
- Keene Road, USDOT #066329V
- Hallett Road, USDOT #066336F
- Ritchey Road, USDOT #066337M
- Thorpe Road, USDOT #066339B
- Mission Road, USDOT #066354D
- Espanola Road, USDOT #066344X
- Sprague Road, USDOT #066347T
- Ladd Road, USDOT #066349G
- Coulee Hite Road, USDOT # 066351H
- Stroup Road, USDOT #066353W

The PCC has, at least temporarily, ceased operations on that track. The railroad may decide to resume operations in the future, or it may decide to abandon the track completely. The cross-bucks at these crossings are in need of repair, generally because the reflectorized materials on the cross-bucks are peeling. However, we are asking for an exemption since no trains operate over the crossings. If the PCC determines to reactivate the tracks in the future, we will, of course, replace or repair the cross-bucks at all of these crossings.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact ...

Sincerely,
Scott Adams
Chief Engineer of Track West Region
Watco Transportation Services
Palouse River and Coulee City Railroad

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