

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Washington State Parks and  
Recreation Commission

Petitioner,

vs.

BNSF Railway Company

Respondent.  
.....)

DOCKET NO. TR-

PETITION TO CHANGE A PRIVATE  
CROSSING TO A PUBLIC CROSSING

USDOT Crossing No. 090175Y  
UTC Crossing No. 3A87.97

2008 MAY 27 PM 3:40

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WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Petitioner asks the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to approve the change of classification of a highway railroad grade crossing from private to public.

**1. Petitioner's Information:**

Petitioner: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
Contact: Lynn Harmon, Property & Acquisition Specialist 3  
Street address: 7150 Cleanwater Drive SW  
PO Box 42650  
City, state, zip code: Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
Telephone: (360) 902-8656  
E-mail: Lynn.Harmon@parks.wa.gov

Signature of Petitioner: \_\_\_\_\_



Title CANDS PRG. MGR

Date 3/27/07

**2. Crossing Location:**

Name of highway, street or road: Doug's Beach Road located within Doug's Beach State Park

Name of operating railroad company: BNSF Railway Company

UTC Crossing No.: 3A87.97

DOT No.: 090175Y

**3. Crossing Traffic:**

Type of public road at the crossing: ☐ State ☐ County ☐ City ☒ State Park

Average monthly vehicle traffic over the tracks: 10 State Parks vehicles.

Vehicle speed limit: No posted speed limit.

During the peak wind surfing season which starts in April and ends in October the vehicle count may be as high as one per day, during the rest of the year it could be as little as one per week.

Average daily pedestrian traffic over tracks: During summer months, approximately 300 pedestrians will use this crossing daily to access the beach area within the park. Pedestrian traffic is lower during other times of the year.

During the peak wind surfing season which starts in April and ends in October the vehicle count may be as high as 300 per day, during the rest of the year it could be as little as 30 per week.

Type of railroad at crossing: ☒ Common carrier ☐ Logging ☐ Industrial

Type of tracks at crossing: ☒ Main line ☐ Branch line ☐ Spur

Number of tracks at crossing: 1

Average daily freight train traffic: 22

Freight train speed: 70 mph

(Note: Round trip counts as two trains. Include switch movements.)

Average daily passenger train traffic: 1

Passenger train speed: 70 mph

**4. Description of warning devices at the crossing:**

Shoulder-mounted gates and lights

**5. Describe in detail why you want to change the designation of the crossing from private to public.**

Doug's Beach State Park is located near Lyle, Washington on the Columbia River. The park is a world-renowned wind surfing destination and also draws visitors because of its wildlife, fishing, and swimming. A parking area is located on the south side of SR-14. Visitors follow a pedestrian walkway behind the vehicle parking area which leads them to the crossing. The crossing intersects BNSF's mainline tracks. The crossing has

shoulder-mounted gates and lights and is primarily used as a pedestrian crossing. Parks' staff can remove a post near the crossing, which allows them to drive a vehicle over the crossing; otherwise, all vehicle traffic is restricted. Currently, this is a private crossing that is being used primarily by the public.

6. **Supporting documentation.** Include additional comments or attach documentation, sketches or photographs in support the petition.



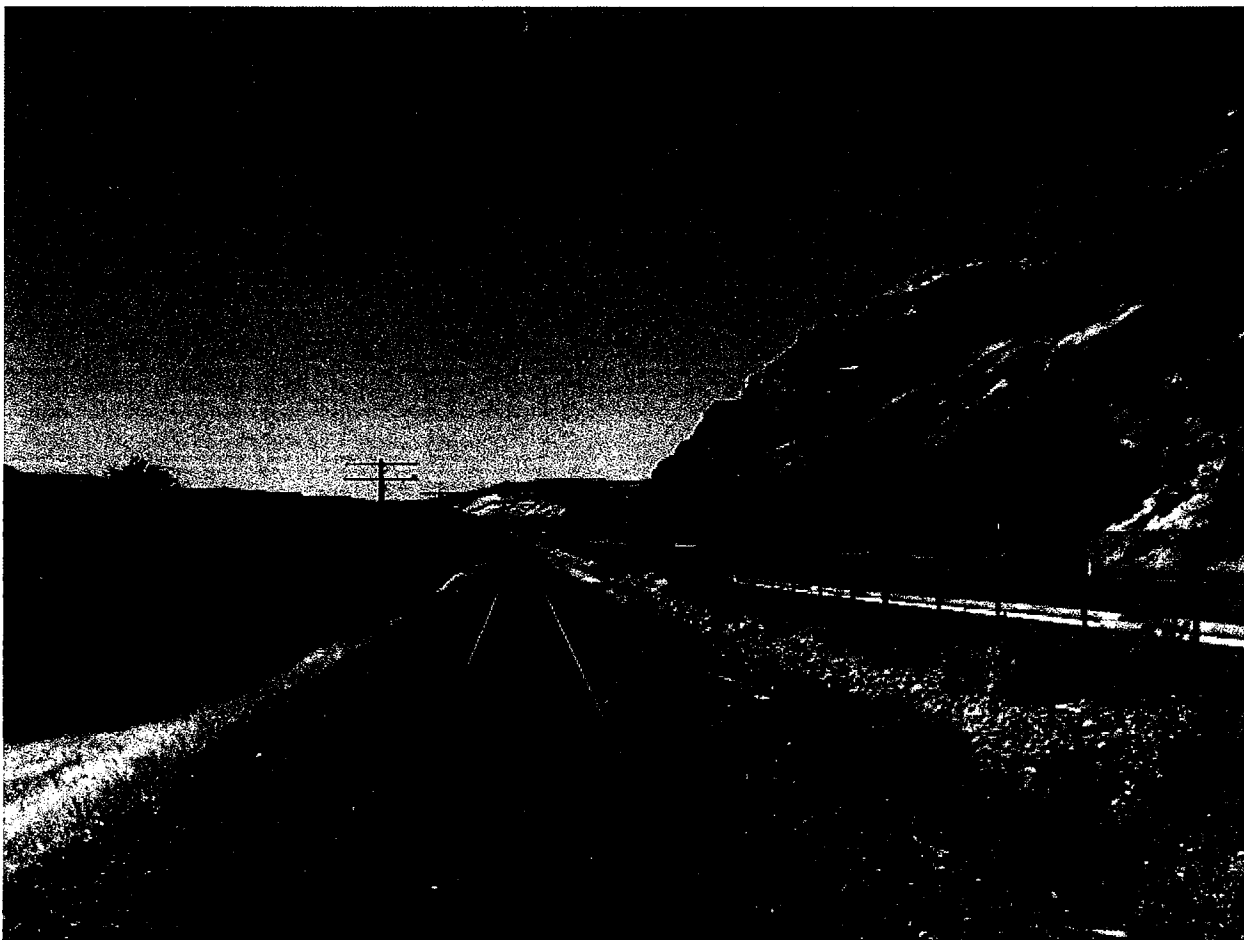
Viewing south across Highway 14 at pedestrian and administrative crossing; this photo was taken before BNSF added a spur line that starts just to the west (right) of the crossing.



Close-up of previous view.



View of tracks to the east at the crossing.



View of tracks to the west at the crossing before spur was added; spur would be to the north (right) side of the picture.

## WAIVER OF HEARING BY RESPONDENT

### Waiver of Hearing

USDOT Crossing No. 090175Y

UTC Crossing No. 3A87.97


The undersigned represents the Respondent in the change of the classification of the crossing from private to public, as described by the Petitioner in this docket. We agree that the classification of the crossing should be changed from private to public and consent to a decision by the commission without a hearing.

*The subject crossing shall be restricted to the use of pedestrian and State Park's vehicles only. No public vehicular traffics are allowed.*

Dated at Seattle, Washington, on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008.

John Li

Printed name of Respondent



Signature of Respondent's Representative

Manager of Public Projects, BNSF

Title