

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Town of Steilacoom, WA

Petitioner,

vs.

BNSF Railway Co.

Respondent

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DOCKET NO. TR- 081742

PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF  
 A WAYSIDE HORN A HIGHWAY-  
 RAIL GRADE CROSSING

USDOT CROSSING # 085755E

UTC CROSSING # 1K15.70

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The Petitioner asks the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to approve installation of a wayside horn at a highway-rail grade crossing.

*Section 1 – Petitioner’s Information*

Town of Steilacoom, WA
Petitioner
1030 Roe Street
Street Address
Steilacoom, WA 98388
City, State and Zip Code
Mailing Address, if different than the street address
Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Contact Person Name
(253) 983-2074 paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us
Contact Phone Number and E-mail Address

*Section 2 – Respondent's Information*

BNSF Railway Co.
Respondent 2454 Occidental Ave. Suite 1A
Street Address Seattle, WA 98134
City, State and Zip Code
Mailing Address, if different than the street address John, Li, Manager of Public Projects
Contact Person Name (206) 625-6146 John.Li@BNSF.com
Contact Phone Number and E-mail Address

*Section 3 – Crossing Location*

1. Name of highway/roadway <u>Union Avenue</u>
2. Name of railroad <u>BNSF Railway</u>
3. USDOT Crossing No. <u>085755E</u> UTC Crossing No. <u>1K15.70</u>
4. Located in the ___ 1/4 of the ___ 1/4 of Sec. ___, Twp. ___, Range _____ W.M. <u>31.20.02.E</u>
5. GPS location, if known _____
6. Railroad mile post (nearest tenth) <u>15.70</u>
7. City <u>Steilacoom</u> County <u>Pierce</u>

**Section 4 – Vehicle Traffic**

1. Type of public road at the crossing	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City
	<input type="checkbox"/> Port	<input type="checkbox"/> State Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
2. Name of public road <u>Union Avenue</u>			
3. Road authority <u>Town of Steilacoom</u>			
4. Average daily vehicle traffic over the crossing <u>14,478</u> Vehicle speed limit <u>25</u>			
5. Number of lanes each way <u>1</u>			
6. Trucks (commercial vehicles) are what percent of average daily traffic <u>62%</u>			
7. Number of school buses over the crossing each day <u>0</u>			

**Section 5 – Railroad Traffic**

1.. Name of railroad(s) operating at crossing <u>BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railroad</u>			
<u>And Amtrak</u>			
9. Type of railroad at crossing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Common Carrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Logging	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passenger	<input type="checkbox"/> Excursion	
10. Type of tracks at crossing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main Line	<input type="checkbox"/> Siding or Spur	
11. Number of tracks at crossing <u>2</u>			
12. Average daily train traffic, freight <u>42</u>			
Authorized freight train speed <u>79</u>		Operated freight train speed <u>50</u>	
13. Average daily train traffic, passenger <u>8</u>			
Authorized passenger train speed <u>79</u>		Operated passenger train speed <u>50</u>	

*Section 6 – Justification*

1. Describe in detail why this crossing should have a wayside horn installed.

The Town of Steilacoom, WA is seeking to eliminate the routine sounding of the train horn at the Union Avenue highway-rail grade crossing under the guidelines of 49 CFR Pars 222 and 229 Use of Locomotive Horns at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings; Final Rule (FRA Train Horn Rule) issued by the Federal Railroad Administration. After careful examination of the Union Avenue highway- rail grade crossing it was determined that the best available treatment option for treating the crossing was the installation of wayside horns. Section 222.59 of the FRA Train Horn Rule stipulates that “A wayside horn conforming to the requirements of appendix E of this part may be used in lieu of a locomotive horn at any highway-rail grade crossing equipped with an active warning system consisting of , at a minimum, flashing lights and gates.” The installation of the wayside horn at the Union Avenue highway-rail grade crossing will meet all of the requirements set for in Appendix E to Part 222 – Requirements for Wayside Horns.

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Section 7 -- Waiver of Hearing by Respondent

**Waiver of Hearing**

The undersigned represents the Respondent in the petition to install a wayside horn at the following crossing.

USDOT Crossing No. 085755E UTC Crossing No. 1K15.70

We have investigated the conditions at the crossing. We are satisfied the conditions are the same as described by the Petitioner in this docket. We agree installation of a wayside horn should be made and consent to a decision by the commission without a hearing.

*Waiver is without prejudice and matter may be re-opened if final agreements between Town of Steilacoom and BNSF are not reached.*

Dated at Seattle, Washington, on the 10th day of

September, 2008.

John Li

Printed name of Respondent

  
Signature of Respondent's representative

Public Projects Manager, BNSF Railway

Title

(206) 625-6146 John.Li@BNSF.com

Phone number and e-mail address

2454 Occidental Avenue Suite 1A

Seattle, WA 98134

Mailing address