

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

)	DOCKET NO. TR- 09/594
)	
City of Kennewick)	PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF
_____)	R15-3 EXEMPT SIGNS AT A
Petitioner,)	HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE
)	CROSSING
)	
Union Pacific Railroad)	
_____)	
Respondent)	USDOT CROSSING #808908G
)	
.....)	UTC CROSSING #
_____)	

The Petitioner asks the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to approve installation of an R15-3 'Exempt' sign at a highway-rail grade crossing.

Section 1 – Petitioner’s Information

City of Kennewick	_____
Petitioner	
1010 E. Chemical Drive	_____
Street Address	
Kennewick, WA 99336	_____
City, State and Zip Code	
PO Box 6108	_____
Mailing Address, if different than the street address	
Dan Kaufman, City Engineer	<i>Daniel L. Kaufman, PE</i>
Contact Person Name	
509-585-4286 dan.kaufman@ci.kennewick.wa.us	_____
Contact Phone Number and E-mail Address	

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 RECORDS MANAGEMENT
 2009 OCT -6 AM 8:35
 STATE OF WASH
 UTIL AND TRANSP
 COMMISSION

Section 2 – Respondent's Information

<u>Union Pacific Railroad</u> Respondent
<u>9541 Atkinson St.</u> Street Address
<u>Roseville, CA 95747</u> City, State and Zip Code
 Mailing Address, if different than the street address
<u>Terrel Anderson</u> Contact Person Name
<u>919-789-5134 taanders@up.com</u> Contact Phone Number and E-mail Address

Section 3 – Crossing Location

1. Name of highway/roadway <u>N Benton Street at Railroad Avenue</u>
2. Name of railroad <u>Union Pacific Railroad</u>
3. USDOT Crossing No. <u>808908G</u> UTC Crossing No. _____
4. Located in the ___ 1/4 of the ___ 1/4 of Sec. ____, Twp. ____, Range _____ W.M.
5. GPS location, if known <u>Lat. 46.21137, Long. -119.11994</u>
6. Railroad mile post (nearest tenth) <u>13.7</u>
7. City: <u>Kennewick</u> County: <u>Benton</u>

Section 4 – Current Crossing Traffic

1. Type of public road at the crossing State County City
 Port State Park Other _____
2. Average daily vehicle traffic over the tracks 3,300 Vehicle speed limit 30 mph
3. Trucks (commercial vehicles) are what percent of average daily traffic 20%
4. Number of school buses over the crossing each day ??
5. Name of railroad(s) operating at crossing None at this time.

6. Type of railroad at crossing Common Carrier Logging Industrial
 Passenger Excursion
7. Type of tracks at crossing Main Line Siding or Spur
8. Number of tracks at crossing 1
9. Average daily train traffic, freight None at this time
Authorized freight train speed 8 mph Operated freight train speed 5 to 8 mph
10. Average daily train traffic, passenger N/A
Authorized passenger train speed _____ Operated passenger train speed _____

Curl, Paul (UTC)

From: TAANDERS@UP.COM
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2009 10:57 AM
To: Curl, Paul (UTC); LR Canon IR5050; jthoelke; steve plummer; dan kaufman
Cc: Hunter, Kathy (UTC); Johnston, Bob (UTC); Halstead, Lori (UTC)
Subject: Re: Kalan Industrial Lead Track in Kennewick

This will work for UPRR
Responded from blackberry device

----- Original Message -----

From: "Curl, Paul (UTC)" [pcurl@utc.wa.gov]
Sent: 09/23/2009 09:31 AM MST
To: "LR Canon IR5050" <lr5050@dshs.wa.gov>; <jthoelke@bft.org>; <steve.plummer@ci.kennewick.wa.us>; <dan.kaufman@ci.kennewick.wa.us>; Terrel Anderson
Cc: "Hunter, Kathy (UTC)" <khunter@utc.wa.gov>; "Johnston, Bob (UTC)" <bjohnsto@utc.wa.gov>; "Halstead, Lori (UTC)" <LHalstea@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: Kalan Industrial Lead Track in Kennewick

We met on-site July 15, 2009 to discuss the track and rail crossings on the Kalan Industrial Lead in Kennewick. The meeting was the result of Jim Thoelke's efforts to "Exempt" the crossing at N Washington Street so that Ben Franklin Transit buses would not have to stop at what appeared to an out-of-service rail crossing.

At the meeting, we determined that there were seven public crossings on track that had not been used for a long time. Three of the crossings, N Dayton Street, N Benton Street, and N Washington Street apparently are owned by Union Pacific Railroad and the other four, N Beech Street, N Cedar Street, N Date Street, and E Bruneau Avenue are apparently owned by the Port of Kennewick. Everything I have seen since the meeting seems to support this ownership split.

At the meeting, we explored the idea of formally abandoning the line, removing the track, and closing the crossings. Larry Peterson said the Port could not support this idea for its tracks and crossings but Terrel Anderson thought UPRR might be willing to do so on some its track.

Terrel followed up with UPRR management and found that UPRR could not support abandoning the track and crossings either.

So, that leaves us with Jim Thoelke's original idea to install exempt signs on the N Washington Street Crossing. Terrel indicates that UPRR will support a petition to install exempt signs at N Washington with the caveat that the signs would have to be removed if UPRR resumes operations on this line.

As far as I know, all parties favor of the exempt signs, including UTC staff. Under our process, only the road authority (city of Kennewick) or the railroad can file a petition for installation of exempt signs. I think it would appropriate in this case for the city to file the petition. I have a draft petition that was prepared by the Port. I will modify that draft to meet our standards and forward it to the city for signature. I'm assuming Dan Kaufman has authority to sign on behalf of the city. If that is not correct, please let me know so that I can include the right information in the petition.

I also think it might be a good idea to install exempt signs on N Benton Street. Jim indicated that transit buses use this crossing occasionally and it makes no sense for them to stop because there are no train operations. I will draft a petition for this crossing also. If anybody along the way objects, we can drop the idea.