

SEP 8 1999

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CITY OF WOODLAND	)	DOCKET NO. TR-991270
	)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
	)	CONSTRUCT A NEW CROSSING AT
	)	SCHURMAN WAY
PORT OF WOODLAND	)	
	)	
Respondent,	)	
.....	)	

By petition filed with the Commission on July 27, 1999, The City of Woodland seeks authority to construct a grade crossing at the intersection of Schurman Way and the newly constructed Woodland Industrial Lead Track, located in the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 13, Township 5 N., Range 1W, W.M. in the City of Woodland.

Respondent has consented to the entry of an order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

Schurman Way is a 2-way minor arterial, with a speed limit of 35 mph. The construction of this crossing is associated with the extension of a rail spur from the main line of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. The new track, which is owned by the Port of Woodland, is to extend 4,210 feet and will provide rail access to developing industries. Since train speeds will not exceed 10 mph, sight distances are sufficient to accept the proposed use of Crossbuck signs as the sole warning device, however, future construction adjacent to the crossing may adversely affect sight distance capability for motor vehicle operators. For this reason, the crossing plans also include the installation of a conduit for possible future active warning device installation.

A grade separation is not practicable due to the high cost involved and the lack of funding. Also, the train speed limit is 10 mph and expected train traffic is only five to ten trains per month, making the safety benefits of grade separation very low.

All other necessary permits for this construction have been granted by the Washington Department of Ecology and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The Commission staff has investigated the petition and has recommended that the petition be approved.

The Commissioners, having reviewed the petition and being fully advised in the matter, believe that granting the petition is in the public interest.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS that the petition of the City of Woodland for authority to construct a grade crossing at the intersection of Schurman Way and the above described railroad spur is granted, subject to the following conditions:

1. The crossing shall be hard-surfaced between the rails and for a distance of at least one foot outside each rail for the full width of the traveled roadway, including the shoulders. The surface of the roadway and the top of the rails shall be the same elevation.
2. The roadway grade for 25 feet on each side of the centerline of the railway at the crossing shall be level.
3. Construction of the crossing shall conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
4. Traffic control devices, pavement markings, and advanced warning signs shall comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
5. Construction of the crossing shall include the installation of a conduit to provide capability for the installation of active traffic control devices as needed in the future.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1999

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

  
MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

  
WILLIAM R. GILLIS, Commissioner