

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

SPOKANE COUNTY)	DOCKET NO. TR-011078
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION
)	TO UPGRADE RAILROAD
v.)	WARNING DEVICES AT PEONE
)	ROAD
BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA)	
FE RAILWAY COMPANY)	D.O.T. 058794Y
)	
Respondent)	W.U.T.C. 2A 1468.1
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On July 27, 2001, Spokane County filed a petition with the Commission, seeking authority to upgrade the warning devices at a highway-rail grade crossing. The crossing is located at the intersection of the respondent's tracks and Peone Road, in the SW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 10, Township 26, Range 43 E, W.M., in Spokane County, Washington.
- 2 Respondent has consented to an entry of an order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

DISCUSSION

- 3 In the vicinity of the crossing, Peone Road is classified as an urban minor-collector road, with 1 lane for each direction of traffic and a vehicle speed limit of 35 mph. Daily traffic through the crossing averages 2,300 vehicles, including 200 trucks and 5 school bus trips. Daily traffic is expected to reach 4,000 vehicles per day by 2020.
- 4 The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company maintains one main track and one siding track across Peone Road. Daily rail traffic averages 4 freight trains traveling at a maximum timetable speed of 35 mph.
- 5 The crossing is currently equipped with rotatable type cantilever-mounted flashing light signals. Petitioner proposes replacing the "antiquated" equipment with new walk-out type cantilever-mounted signals with gates and constant warning train detection circuitry. The installations will improve safety for the motoring public.
- 6 Funding for the signal upgrades is pursuant to the Federal TEA-21 Railroad Crossing Program (Section 130). On August 17, 2000, Commission Staff participated in a diagnostic review of the crossing to assess its eligibility for this funding.

7 Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommend that it be granted, subject to specified conditions.

8 The Commission has reviewed the petition and have been fully advised in the matter. They believe that granting the petition, subject to the conditions set forth below, is in the public interest, and direct the Secretary to issue the Order.

ORDER

9 THE COMMISSION GRANTS the petition of Spokane County to upgrade warning devices at a highway-rail grade crossing at the intersection of Peone Road and the tracks of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company, in Spokane County, Washington, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The installations must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
- (2) All devices must be installed in such a manner as to provide required clearances for both rail and vehicular traffic.
- (3) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
- (4) Upon completion of the installations authorized herein, petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the installations is subject to an inspection by Commission Staff, verifying that the changes are in full compliance with law and regulation and the conditions specified herein.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 8th day of August, 2001.

THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary