

including through movements from east-bound Pacific Avenue, left-turns from south-bound Eclipse-Mill Road, and left and right turns into the crossing from the gravel road/Pacific Avenue intersection. Average daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 300 vehicles, including 50 trucks.

- 4 Petitioner maintains a single mainline track through the crossing. Average daily train traffic includes 10 freight trains and two passenger trains operating at a maximum speeds of 15 mph and 35 mph respectively.
- 5 Warning devices at the crossing consist of standard crossbuck signs. Petitioner proposes to upgrade the warning devices by installing shoulder-mounted flashing light signals with gates. The petition also proposes the use of median-mounted signals and gates in addition to shoulder-mounted signals and gates. The lane widths and configuration of each roadway approach is such that installing raised medians, on which the additional signals and gates would be mounted (see plans submitted with petition), is the most appropriate option. The upgrades are being proposed in the interest of improving safety for highway users.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington having jurisdiction over public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington. *Chapter 81.53 RCW.*
- 7 (2) The Pacific Avenue grade crossing, designated as USDOT 084605T, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 8 (3) RCW 81.53.261 and WAC 480-62-150 require that the Commission grant approval prior to modifying or upgrading warning signals and devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing.

- 9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted, subject to specified conditions.
- 10 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 31, 2002.
- 11 (6) After examination of the petition filed by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company on December 16, 2002, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 The petition of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company for upgrading warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of Pacific Avenue and the Petitioner's tracks in Everett, Washington, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) All changes and upgrades must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
 - (2) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
 - (3) Traffic control devices and instrument housing must be installed in such a manner as to provide required clearances for both rail and vehicular traffic.
 - (4) Upon completion of the upgrades authorized herein, petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the changes is subject to a compliance inspection by Commission Staff, verifying that the crossing

is in full compliance with law, regulation, and the conditions specified herein.

- 13 The Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.261, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 31st day of December, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary