BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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FRANKLIN COUNTY	DOCKET NO. TR-011131	
Petitioner, v.	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO MODIFY A HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING SURFACE	
THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY	D.O.T.	089700F
Respondent	W.U.T.C.	1B 134.00

BACKGROUND

- I On August 10, 2001, Franklin County filed a petition with the Commission, seeking authority to modify a highway-rail grade crossing surface. The crossing is located at the intersection of Sagemoor Road and the tracks of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company in Franklin County, Washington.
- 2 Respondent has consented to an entry of an order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

DISCUSSION

- ³ The Sagemoor Road grade crossing consists of a 32 feet wide concrete crossing surface. In 1999, Franklin County widened Sagemoor Road to 36 feet, however the crossing surface was not altered. In general, Commission policy is that a crossing surface must extend the full width of the roadway so that highway users can cross the tracks via the crossing surface at all sections of the roadway. The existing crossing at Sagemoor Road is a potential hazard to highway users. Because the roadway is wider than the crossing surface, there is a risk of motorists impacting the tracks outside of the crossing surface area.
- 4 The Petitioner seeks to widen the existing concrete surface from 32 feet to 40 feet to meet current and possible future widening of Sagemoor road. As proposed, the changes would meet all standards for crossing surfaces.
- 5 Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommend that it be granted, subject to specified conditions.
- 6 This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on August 14, 2002. The Commissioners have reviewed the petition and have been advised in the matter. They believe that granting the petition, subject to

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the conditions set forth below, is in the public interest, and direct the Secretary to issue the Order.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION GRANTS the petition of Franklin County to modify a highwayrail grade crossing surface at the intersection of Sagemoor Road and the tracks of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company in Franklin County, Washington, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The upgrades must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
- (2) The crossing must be hard-surfaced between the tracks and for a distance of at least one foot outside of each set of tracks for the full width of the traveled roadway.
- (3) Upon completion of the modification 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.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 14th of August, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary