

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

CAMAS PRAIRIE RAILNET,	)	DOCKET NO. TR-021672
	)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
	)	ALLOCATE FUNDS FROM THE
v.	)	GRADE CROSSING PROTECTIVE
	)	FUND
WHITMAN COUNTY,	)	
	)	USDOT: 872035H
Respondent,	)	
	)	WUTC: 9A 66.75
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On December 19, 2002, Camas Prairie Railnet filed a petition with the Commission, requesting authorization for expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. If approved, the funding would pay for 60 percent of the cost of improving the railroad warning signal system at a railroad-highway grade crossing located at the intersection of Wilma Drive and the petitioner’s tracks in Whitman County, Washington. The remainder of the cost would be paid pursuant to agreement between the parties.
- 2 Respondent has consented to an entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 Warning devices at the Wilma Drive crossing consist of cantilever-mounted flashing lights that are activated by AC/DC – type train detection circuitry. The petition states that the existing signal battery system is obsolete and in need of replacement. Petitioner proposes to replace the signal system batteries, install a power off indicator light, and replace damaged light-head hoods. The installations are being proposed in the interest of improving the effectiveness and reliability of the grade crossing warning system.

4 Grade Crossing Protective Fund money is available for use to pay for the  
crossing upgrades. The total approximate cost of the project is \$2,262.75,  
\$1,357.65 of which would be paid by the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. A  
total expenditure of \$1,500 from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund should be  
approved for unforeseen contingencies.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (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.*
- 6 (2) The Wilma Drive grade crossing, designated as USDOT 872035H, is a  
public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 7 (3) RCW 81.53.271 allows the Commission to authorize expenditure from the  
Grade Crossing Protective Fund for 60 percent of the cost of installation  
towards projects related to improving warning at a railroad-highway  
grade crossing.
- 8 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be  
granted, subject to specified conditions.
- 9 (5) After examination of the petition filed by Camas Prairie Railnet on  
December 19, 2002, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and  
for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

**ORDER**

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 10 The petition of Camas Prairie Railnet, requesting expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund for improving the railroad warning signal system at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of Wilma Drive and the petitioner's tracks, in Whitman County, Washington, is granted.

This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 29, 2002. The Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary