

Calvin Nutt Project Engineer Northwest Division BNSF Railway Company 2454 Occidental Ave. S. #2D Seattle, WA 98134

Telephone 206-625-6623 Fax 206-625-6256 Calvin.Nutt@bnsf.com

July 14, 2014

Kathy Hunter Deputy Assistant Director, Trans. Safety WUTC 1300 S Evergreen Park Dr. SW PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Docket No. TR-140479, Revised Petition for Construction/Reconstruction with Inter-Tie of Grandview Rd. (084841X) at Ferndale in Whatcom Co., WA

Dear Ms. Hunter,

This letter is in support of the aforementioned WUTC petition on behalf of BNSF Railway Company for highway-rail grade crossing upgrades at Grandview Road (DOT# 084841X) in Whatcom Co., WA. The following is supplemental information as provided in Section 12 of the petition for proposed reconstruction.

The project is designed to increase capacity between Seattle, WA and Vancouver, BC by connecting the Ferndale and Custer sidings (ending 1.13 miles south and 1.74 miles north of the crossing, respectively) to create a 5-mile double track segment with two locations to hold full trains without stopped trains blocking crossings. The extension of the double track segment will reduce the time trains are parked on sidings throughout the Bellingham Subdivision, as it closes the meet/pass waiting distance between sidings.

The proposed reconstruction of the crossing is to add this additional track creating a total of two (2) tracks at Grandview Road. Additionally, the existing track will be leveled to ensure a smooth crossing surface. The additional tracks through the crossing will not impact vehicular traffic in duration or number of trains blocking the intersection. Gate-down time will be reduced as fewer trains will be slowing down at this location due to the longer stretch of double track pushing the stopping points farther away. Regarding sight distance, there is a limited obstruction for the eastbound traffic movement looking south, in the form of the crossing bungalow. This obstruction is not an issue once within 100' of this railway crossing. The bungalow is placed per BNSF standard and shown on the plan pages attached to the petition.

The current method of warning is two-quadrant gates and flashers with constant warning time track circuitry and traffic signal preemption. With the construction of a second track through the crossing, BNSF is proposing two-quadrant gates and flashers with constant warning time track circuitry with adjustments to the traffic signal preemption timing.

In conjunction with the attached petition, BNSF is working with WSDOT to determine traffic control improvements at this location that can be implemented as part of this capacity expansion project. Advanced Preemption time for the crossing will be increased as a result of these improvements.

Please review the attached petition and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

mit

Calvin Nutt

Attachments: UTC Petition Docket No. TR-140479 (USDOT Crossing No. 084841X)



WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

) DOCKET NO. TR-140479				
BNSF Railway	 PETITION TO CONSTRUCT OR RECONSTRUCT A HIGHWAY-RAII GPADE CROSSING AND INSTALL 				
vs. Washington State Department of) GRADE CROSSING AND INSTALL) AN INTER-TIE BETWEEN A) HIGHWAY SIGNAL AND A > DAW DOAD GROAD COMMAN 				
Transportation Respondent) SYSTEM				
) USDOT CROSSING NO.: 084841X				

Prior to submitting a Petition to **Construct** a highway-rail grade crossing and install an inter-tie between a Highway Signal and a Railroad Crossing Signal System to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) requirements must be met. Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-865 (2) requires:

All actions of the utilities and transportation commission under statutes administered as of December 12, 1975, are exempted, except the following:

(2) Authorization of the openings or closing of any highway/railroad grade crossing, or the direction of physical connection of the line of one railroad with that of another;

Please attach sufficient documentation to demonstrate that the SEPA requirement has been fulfilled. For additional information on SEPA requirements contact the Department of Ecology.

The Petitioner asks the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission to approve construction or reconstruction of a highway-rail grade crossing and inter-tie the highway signal with the railroad crossing signal system.

1

□ Construction

Reconstruction

JUL 21 PM 1:5

Section 1 – Petitioner's Information

BNSF Railway Company		
TMALAT	7	
Signature		
2454 Occidental Avenue South, Suit	te 2D	
Street Address		
Seattle, Washington 98134		
City, State and Zip Code		
Same as above		
Mailing Address, if different than the	e street address	
Richard Wagner		
Contact Person Name		
(206) 625-6152	Richard.Wagner@BNSF.com	
Contact Phone Number and E-mail	Address	

Section 2 – Respondent's Information

Washington State Department of Transportation Respondent
310 Maple Park Ave. SE Street Address
Olympia, WA 98504
P.O. Box 47329
Ahmer Nizam (Manager – Utilities/Railroad/Agreements)
Contact Person Name
Contact Phone Number and E-mail Address

1. Existing highway/roadway <u>Grandview Road</u> 2. Existing railroad ______BNSF Railway (Bellingham Subdivision) 3. Location of proposed crossing: Located in the <u>SW</u> 1/4 of the <u>SE 1/4 of Sec. 006</u>, Twp. 23N, Range <u>2E</u> W.M. 4. GPS location, if known 48.8920572, -122.6029834 5. Railroad mile post (nearest tenth) 109.32 6. City Ferndale County Whatcom

Section 3 – Proposed or Existing Crossing Location

Section 4 – Proposed or Existing Crossing Information

1. Railroad company BNSF Railway Company
2. Type of railroad at crossing Common Carrier 🗆 Logging 🗅 Industrial
Passenger 🗆 Excursion
3. Type of tracks at crossing Main Line Siding or Spur
4. Number of tracks at crossing One (1)
5. Average daily train traffic, freight <u>Seventeen (17)</u> trains/day
Authorized freight train speed 60 mph Operated freight train speed 0-60 mph
6. Average daily train traffic, passenger Four (4) trains/day
Authorized passenger train speed <u>79 mph</u> Operated passenger train speed <u>0-79 mph</u>
7. Will the proposed crossing eliminate the need for one or more existing crossings? Yes NoX_
 If so, state the distance and direction from the proposed crossing. N/A

9. Does the petitioner propose to close any existing crossings? Yes _____ No _X___

Γ

Section 5 – Temporary Crossing

1. Is the crossi	ng proposed to be t	emporary?	Yes	No <u>X</u>
2. If so, describ	be the purpose of th	ne crossing and t	he estimated tin	ne it will be needed
3. Will the peti crossing?	tioner remove the c Yes	crossing at comp No <u>X</u>	bletion of the act	ivity requiring the temporary
Approximate d	ate of removal _	_N/A		

Section 6 – Current Highway Traffic Information

1. Name of roadway/highway Grandview Road/State Route 548				
2. Roadway classification Rural Major Collector				
3. Road authority Washington State Department of Transportation				
4. Average annual daily traffic (AADT) 9,300 (AADT Year: 2013)				
5. Number of lanes <u>Two (2)</u>				
6. Roadway speed 35 mph				
7. Is the crossing part of an established truck route? Yes X No				
8. If so, trucks are what percent of total daily traffic? 6% (1995 data, new data not available)				
9. Is the crossing part of an established school bus route? Yes X No				
10. If so, how many school buses travel over the crossing each day?10 (4/10/14), 4 WTA busses				
11. Describe any changes to the information in 1 through 7, above, expected within ten years:				

None

Section 7 – Alternatives to the Proposal

2 1	for a cofor location oviets overlain when the encoding should not be be at the difference of
2. I.	N/A
-	
_	
3. 7 parri	Are there any hillsides, embankments, buildings, trees, railroad loading platforms or other ers in the vicinity which may obstruct a motorist's view of the crossing? Yes No _X
l If	a harrier exists describe
	 Whether petitioner can relocate the crossing to avoid the obstruction and if not, why no
	 How the barrier can be removed. How the petitioner or another party can mitigate the bazard caused by the barrier.
	• now the petitioner of another party can intigate the nazard caused by the barrier.
_	Signal bungalow in southwest quadrant of crossing located at standard crossing bungalow
_	location (shown on crossing plan page). Installed per BNSF standard
_	
i. Is ilteri	it feasible to construct an over-crossing or under-crossing at the proposed location as an native to an at-grade crossing? Yes No X_{-}
. If	an over-crossing or under-crossing is not feasible, explain why.
	Limited distance between railroad track(s) and intersection of Portal Way/Grandview
_	Road on the east side of existing BNSF Railway mainline for a grade separated approach
. Do r tre	bes the railway line, at any point in the vicinity of the proposed crossing, pass over a fill area estle or through a cut where it is feasible to construct an over-crossing or an under-crossing,

	IT SUCH a location exists, state:
	 The distance and direction from the proposed crossing. The assumption of a supervision of a supervision of the proposed crossing.
	 I he approximate cost of construction. Any reasons that exist to prevent locating the processing at this site.
	• Any reasons that exist to prevent locating the crossing at this site.
	N/A
,	
	Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes XNo
	Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes <u>X</u> No
	Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X No If a crossing exists, state: The distance and direction from the proposed crossing
	 Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X No If a crossing exists, state: The distance and direction from the proposed crossing. Whether it is feasible to divert traffic from the proposed to the existing crossing.
	Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X No
	 Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X No If a crossing exists, state: The distance and direction from the proposed crossing. Whether it is feasible to divert traffic from the proposed to the existing crossing. As a part of the BNSF Railway project, two public crossings and one private crossing in or around the City of Ferndale, WA will be revised or reconstructed. The closest existing
	Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X_No If a crossing exists, state: • The distance and direction from the proposed crossing. • Whether it is feasible to divert traffic from the proposed to the existing crossing. As a part of the BNSF Railway project, two public crossings and one private crossing in or around the City of Ferndale, WA will be revised or reconstructed. The closest existing public crossing to Grandview Road is Brown Road (DOT# 084839W). It is located
	 Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X No If a crossing exists, state: The distance and direction from the proposed crossing. Whether it is feasible to divert traffic from the proposed to the existing crossing. As a part of the BNSF Railway project, two public crossings and one private crossing in or around the City of Ferndale, WA will be revised or reconstructed. The closest existing public crossing to Grandview Road is Brown Road (DOT# 084839W). It is located
).	 Is there an existing public or private crossing in the vicinity of the proposed crossing? Yes X No If a crossing exists, state: The distance and direction from the proposed crossing. Whether it is feasible to divert traffic from the proposed to the existing crossing. As a part of the BNSF Railway project, two public crossings and one private crossing in or around the City of Ferndale, WA will be revised or reconstructed. The closest existing public crossing to Grandview Road is Brown Road (DOT# 084839W). It is located

1. Complete the following table, describing the sight distance for motorists when approaching the tracks from either direction.

a. Approaching the crossing from <u>East</u> the current approach provides an unobstructed view as follows: (North, South, East, West)

Direction of sight (left or right)	Number of feet from proposed crossing	Provides an unobstructed view for how many feet	
Right	300	N/A Portal Way Intersection	
Right	200 N/A Portal Way Intersection		
Right	100	N/A Portal Way Intersection	
Right 50		690'	
Right	25 2,100'		
Left	300 N/A Portal Way Intersection		
Left	200	N/A Portal Way Intersection	
Left	100	N/A Portal Way Intersection	
Left	50	3,500'	
Left	25	3,500'	

b. Approaching the crossing from <u>West</u>, the current approach provides an unobstructed view as follows: (Opposite direction-North, South, East, West)

Direction of sight (left or right)	Number of feet from proposed crossing	Provides an unobstructed view for how many feet
Right	300	30'
Right	200	70'
Right	100	1,400'
Right	50	3,500'
Right	25	3,500'
Left	300	110'
Left	200	210'
Left	100	535'
Left	50	1,400'
Left	25	1,400'

2. Will the new crossing provide a level approach measuring 25 feet from the center of the railway on both approaches to the crossing?

Yes No X

3. If not, state in feet the length of level grade from the center of the railway on both approaches to the crossing. 10°

4. Will the new crossing provide an approach grade of not more than five percent prior to the level grade?

Yes X No

5. If not, state the percentage of grade prior to the level grade and explain why the grade exceeds five percent. N/A

Section 9 – Illustration of Proposed Crossing Configuration

Attach a detailed diagram, drawing, map or other illustration showing the following:

- The vicinity of the proposed crossing.
- ♦ Layout of the railway and highway 500 feet adjacent to the crossing in all directions.
- ♦ Percent of grade.
- Obstructions of view as described in Section 7 or identified in Section 8.
- ◆ Traffic control layout showing the location of the existing and proposed signage.

Section 10 – Sidewalks

1. Provide the following information:

- a. Provide a description of the type of sidewalks proposed.
- b. Describe who will maintain the sidewalks.

c. Attach a proposed diagram or design of the crossing including the sidewalks.

N/A

Section 11 – Proposed Warning Signals or Devices

1. Explain in detail the number and type of automatic signals or other warning devices planned at the proposed crossing, including a cost estimate for each. If requesting pre-emption include the type of train detection circuitry, sequencing and advanced preemption time, justification for the changes and its effects on current warning devices and warning times for drivers.

Crossing will have the following items at the completion of the project:

Signs – Advanced Warning Signs, Stop Lines, RR Xing Symbols, 2 Tracks Signs

Train-Activated Devices - Two (2) gates, Two (2) Mast-Mounted Flashing Lights w/bells

Track will be equipped with (Constant Warning) Train Detection Circuitry

Flashers will be directed towards oncoming traffic of skewed Portal Way

2. Provide an estimate for maintaining the signals for 12 months. _N/A_

3. Is the petitioner prepared to pay to the respondent railroad company its share of installing the warning devices as provided by law?

Yes ____ No X

Section 12 – Traffic Signal Preemption

Complete the attached <u>Guide for Determining Time Requirements for Traffic Signal Preemption</u> <u>at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings</u>.

1. Specify simultaneous or advance preemption requested.

Advance

If advance preemption, what is the preemption time. 22 seconds (Previously 21 seconds)

Section 13 – Additional Information

Provide any additional information supporting the proposal, including information such as the public benefits that would be derived from constructing a new crossing as proposed or modifying an existing crossing. Provide project specific information.

Advanced preemption time will be increased from 21 seconds to 22 seconds.

Waiver of Hearing

The undersigned represents the Respondent in the petition to construct or reconstruct a highwayrailroad grade crossing and inter-tie the highway signal with the railroad crossing signal system.

USDOT Crossing No.: 084841X

We have investigated the conditions at the proposed or existing crossing site. We are satisfied the conditions are the same as described by the Petitioner in this docket. We agree that a crossing be installed or reconstructed and the highway signals inter-tied with the railroad crossing signal system and consent to a decision by the commission without a hearing.

Dated at ______, Washington, on the ______ day of

, 20 _____.

Ahmer Nizam

Printed name of Respondent

Signature of Respondent's Representative

Manager – Utilities/Railroad/Agreements

Title

Washington State Department of Transportation

Name of Company

(360) 705-7271 nizama@wsdot.wa.gov

Phone number and e-mail address

P.O. Box 47329

Olympia, WA 98504

Mailing address

MINNE	SOTA
200	A
	000
OF	TRAM

Minnesota Department of Transportation GUIDE FOR DETERMINING TIME REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL PREEMPTION AT HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSINGS

	City	Date	03/04/14
	County Whatcom WA	Completed by	Alex Zhang
	District	District Approval	
		I I	
	((Crossing Street	Parallel Street Name
	Show North Arrow	in Signal AL Darallal Streat	Portal Way
			Crossing Street Name
	Bailroad	Track Phase	SR548 (Grandview Rd)
		Warning Device	
	D 11 - 1 D37012		
	Railroad BNSP	Railroad Contact	
Cros	sing DOT#	Phone	
050			
SEC	TION 1: RIGHT-OF-WAY TRANSFER TIME CALCU	LATION	
Pree	mpt verification and response time		Remarks
1.	Preempt delay time (seconds)	1. 0.0	
2.	Controller response time to preempt (seconds)	2. 1.0	Controller type: 2070
3.	Preempt verification and response time (seconds): a	add lines 1 and 2	3. 1.0
Wor	st-case conflicting vehicle time		
4.	Worst-case conflicting vehicle phase number	4. 2	Remarks
5.	Minimum green time during right-of-way transfer (se	conds) 5. 7.0	
6.	Other green time during right-of-way transfer (secon	ds) 6. 0.0	
7.	Yellow change time (seconds)		
8.	Red clearance time (seconds)		
9.	Worst-case conflicting vehicle time (seconds): add li	ines 5 through 8 9. 1	2.0
Wors	st-case conflicting pedestrian time		
10.	Worst-case conflicting pedestrian phase number	10. 3	Remarks
11.	Minimum walk time during right-of-way transfer (sec	onds) 11. 0.0	
12.	Pedestrian clearance time during right-of-way transfe	er (seconds) 12. 10.0	55ft/3.5ft/s=15.7-4.7-1
13.	Vehicle yellow change time, if not included on line 12	2 (seconds) 13. 4.7	
14.	Vehicle red clearance time, if not included on line 12	2 (seconds) 14. 1.0	
15.	Worst-case conflicting pedestrian time (seconds): ac	dd lines 11 through 14 15.	5.7
Wors	t-case conflicting vehicle or pedestrian time		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
16.	Worst-case conflicting vehicle or pedestrian time (se	conds): maximum of lines 9 and 15	16. 15.7
17.	Right-of-way transfer time (seconds): add lines 3	and 16	17. 16.7

SECTION 2: QUEUE CLEARANCE TIME CALCULATION

	CSD = Clear storage distance
	MTCD = Minimum track clearance distance
	L = Queue start-up distance also stop-line distance
	DVCD = Design vehicle clearance distance
	Remarks
18.	Clear storage distance (CSD, feet) 18. 45
19.	Minimum track clearance distance (MTCD, feet) 19. 52 Line 20 need to be checked.
20.	Design vehicle length (DVL, feet) 20. 74 Design vehicle type: WB 67
04	
21.	Queue start-up distance, L (feet): add lines 18 and 19 21. 21. 87
22.	Time required for design vehicle to start moving (seconds): calculate as 2+(L÷20) 22. 6.9
23.	Design vehicle clearance distance, DVCD (feet): add lines 19 and 20 23. 126
24.	Time for design vehicle to accelerate through the DVCD (seconds)
25.	Queue clearance time (seconds): add lines 22 and 24 25. 22.9
SEC	TION 3: MAXIMUM PREEMPTION TIME CALCULATION Remarks
26.	Right-of-way transfer time (seconds): line 17
27.	Queue clearance time (seconds): line 25 27. 22.9
28.	Desired minimum separation time (seconds) 28. 4.0
29.	Maximum preemption time (seconds): add lines 26 through 28 29. 43.6
SEC	TION 4: SUFFICIENT WARNING TIME CHECK Remarks
30.	Required minimum time, MT (seconds): per regulations 30. 20.0
31.	Clearance time, CT (seconds): get from railroad 31. 2.0
32.	Minimum warning time, MWT (seconds): add lines 30 and 31 32. 22.0 Excludes buffer time (BT)
33.	Advance preemption time, APT, if provided (seconds): get from railroad 33. 0.0
34.	Warning time provided by the railroad (seconds): add lines 32 and 33 34. 22.0
35.	Additional warning time required from railroad (seconds): subtract line 34 from line 29, round up to nearest full second, enter 0 if less than 0
	If the additional warning time required (line 35) is greater than zero, additional warning time has to be requested from the railroad. Alternatively, the maximum preemption time (line 29) may be decreased after performing an engineering study to investigate the possibility of reducing the values on lines 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14.
Rema	arks:
1101110	

SECTION	5: TRACK	CLEARANCE	GREEN	TIME CALC	ULATION	(OPTIONAL)	
OLOHIGA	5. IIIII01	OLLAIGHUL	ONCEN	THE OALO	OLAHON	(OF HORAE)	

Pree	mpt Trap Check			
36.	Advance preemption time (APT) provided (seconds):			
37.	Multiplier for maximum APT due to train handling			
38.	Maximum APT (seconds): multiply line 36 and 37 38. 28.8 Remarks			
39.	Minimum duration for the track clearance green interval (seconds)			
40.	Gates down after start of preemption (seconds): add lines 38 and 39 40. 43.8			
41.	Preempt verification and response time (seconds): line 3 41. 1.0 Remarks			
42.	Best-case conflicting vehicle or pedestrian time (seconds): usually 0 42. 0.0			
43.	Minimum right-of-way transfer time (seconds): add lines 41 and 42 43.			
44.	Minimum track clearance green time (seconds): subtract line 43 from line 40			
Clear	ring of Clear Storage Distance			
45.	Time required for design vehicle to start moving (seconds), line 22 45. 6.9			
46.	Design vehicle clearance distance (DVCD, feet), Vine 23 46. Remarks			
47.	Portion of CSD to clear during track clearance phase (feet) 47 CSD* in Figure 3 in Instructions.			
48.	Design vehicle relocation distance (DVRD, feet): add lines 46 and 47 48. 126			
49.	Time required for design vehicle to accelerate through DVRD seconds)			
50.	Time to clear portion of clear storage distance (seconds), add line, 45 and 49 50. 6.9			
51.	1. Track clearance green interval (seconds): maximum of lines 44 and 50, round up to nearest full second 51. 43			
SECI				
52.	Right-of-way transfer time (seconds): line 7			
53.	Time required for design vehicle to star moving (seconds), line 22 53. 6.9			
54.	Time required for design vehicle to accelerate through DVL (on line 20, seconds)			
55.	Time required for design vehicle to clear descending gate (seconds): add lines 52 though 54 55. 35.6 Remarks			
56.	Duration of flashing lights before gate descent start (seconds): get from railroad 56.			
57.	Full gate descent time (seconds): get from railroad			
58.	Proportion of non-interaction gate descent time			
59.	Non-interaction gate descent time (seconds): multiply lines 57 and 58 59. 5.4			
60.	Time available for design vehicle to clear descending gate (seconds): add lines 56 and 59 60.			
61.	Advance preemption time (APT) required to avoid design vehicle-gate interaction (seconds): subtract line 60 from line 55, round up to nearest full second, enter 0 if less than 0			



NOV-2012 01:25 Ferndole/08_TechProd/Drowi rberntsen 40 SF8NSF CEC/D245 Jeten

