

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

COLUMBIA AND COWLITZ RAILROAD COMPANY,	)	DOCKET TR-060150
	)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER 01
	)	
v.	)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
	)	MODIFY RAILROAD WARNING
CITY OF LONGVIEW	)	DEVICES AT 30 <sup>TH</sup> AVENUE IN
	)	LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON
	)	
Respondent.	)	USDOT: 840539U
	)	WUTC: 11A1.80
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On January 25, 2006, Columbia and Cowlitz Railroad Company filed a petition with the Commission, seeking approval to modify warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The crossing is located at the intersection of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the petitioner’s tracks, in Section 29, Township 08, Range 02 W, in Longview, Washington.
  
- 2     Respondent has consented to an entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
  
- 3     In the vicinity of the crossing, 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a two-lane road, with one lane for each direction of traffic and a vehicle speed limit of 30 mph.
  
- 4     Respondent maintains one mainline track through the crossing. Train traffic is limited to freight trains, traveling at a maximum speed of 20 mph.
  
- 5     Warning devices at the crossing consist of two cantilever flashing lights, a shoulder-mounted flashing light, gates, and a “No Right Hand Turn” light on the shoulder mount. Petitioner seeks to remove the shoulder-mounted flashing light, since the recent addition of the cantilever flashing lights and gates makes the shoulder-mounted light unnecessary. In addition, Petitioner seeks to move the “No Right Hand Turn” light to the gate mechanism mast in the northwest quadrant of the crossing.

**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 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue grade crossing, identified as USDOT 840539U, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 8 (3) RCW 81.53.261 requires that the Commission grant approval prior to making changes in the method and manner of traffic control at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington.
- 9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.
- 10 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 15, 2006.
- 11 (6) After examination of the petition filed by the Columbia and Cowlitz Railroad Company on January 25, 2006, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

**ORDER**

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The petition of the Columbia and Cowlitz Railroad Company to modify warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the petitioner's tracks, in Longview, Washington, is granted.
- 13 (2) Upon completion of the modifications authorized herein, Petitioner must notify the Commission.

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 March 15, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary