Randy Seibert Railroad Manager Columbia and Cowlitz Railroad Company 3401 Industrial Way Longview, WA 98632

Re: Docket No. TR-061030

Dear Mr. Seibert:

We received a petition from you on June 15, 2006, requesting a grant from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund to construct and install a worker safety platform at the Industrial Way/SR-432 grade crossing in Cowlitz County.

Under commission rules, grants for installation of, or improvements to, grade crossing signals or other warning devices at public crossings can be considered at any time. Other types of rail safety projects can only be considered in response to a call for grants. We have determined that your proposed project does not qualify as an improvement to signals or other warning devices. This means that we can only consider funding your project during an open period when we evaluate various rail safety projects in competition with each other. The last open period for these grants ended February 17, 2006.

We intend to issue a new call for grant applications in July 2006. We will evaluate your project during this new open period, which will likely end about September 1, 2006. We will let you know by the end of October whether or not your request for a grant is likely to be approved.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Paul Curl at (360) 6641231 or <u>pcurl@wutc.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Carole W. Washburn Executive Secretary