

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

In The Matter of the Petition of	)	DOCKET TR-061197
	)	
CENTRAL PUGET SOUND	)	ORDER 01
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
Petitioner,	)	UPGRADE TRAIN DETECTION
	)	CIRCUITRY AND WARNING
v.	)	DEVICES
	)	
CITY OF LAKEWOOD	)	USDOT: 085404F
	)	WUTC: 1J 9.09
Respondent	)	
	)	
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On July 21, 2006, Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) filed a petition with the Commission, seeking approval to upgrade train detection circuitry and warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The crossing is identified as USDOT 085404F and located at the intersection of 108<sup>th</sup> Street SW and the petitioner's tracks in Lakewood, Washington.
  
- 2 Train detection circuitry at the 108<sup>th</sup> Street SW grade crossing consists of motion sensors which detect when a train is approaching the intersection, activating the bells, gates, flashing lights, and nearby traffic signal at the intersection of 108<sup>th</sup> Street SW and Lakeview Boulevard. Sound Transit proposes to upgrade the circuitry to a constant warning time system, which detects trains in advance of standard motion sensors. In addition, Sound Transit proposes to upgrade the warning devices to include a wayside horn and new flashing lights. This upgrade will improve the overall reliability of the warning system by providing a more consistent warning time to motorists at the intersection and will provide improved safety for motorists by adding a wayside horn and new flashing lights.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 3 (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.*
- 4 (2) The 108<sup>th</sup> Street SW grade crossing, identified as USDOT 085404F, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 5 (3) WAC 480-62-150 (2)(d) requires that the Commission grant approval prior to any changes to train detection circuitry or warning devices at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington.
- 6 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.
- 7 (5) The authority to enter this order has been delegated to the Executive Secretary or her designee pursuant to RCW 80.01.060(3) and WAC 480-07-904(1). WAC 480-07-904(3) provides that an affected person may ask the commission to review any such order. If you seek review of the order you must file your request no later than the fourteenth day after the date it is posted at <[www.wutc.wa.gov](http://www.wutc.wa.gov)>. The commission will schedule a request for review promptly for consideration and will notify the affected company, and any person requesting review, of the time and place of the open meeting at which review will be taken.
- 8 (6) After examination of the petition filed by the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority on July 21, 2006, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 9 The petition of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority to upgrade train detection circuitry at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of 108<sup>th</sup> Street SW and the petitioner's tracks in Lakewood, Washington, is granted. Approval of the petition is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
- (2) Upon completion of the upgrades authorized herein, petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the changes is subject to inspection by Commission Staff, verifying that the crossing is in full compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and the conditions specified herein.

The Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of WAC 480-62-150, RCW 81.53.030, and RCW 81.53.271 enters this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 22 day of September, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary