

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

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET TR-071982
)	
CHEHALIS-CENTRALIA)	ORDER 01
RAILROAD & MUSEUM)	
)	
Applicant,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR
Requesting Disbursement from the)	DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE
Grade Crossing Protective Fund)	CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On August 7, 2007, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) sent a “Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Grant Monies from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund” in Docket TR-071597 to various interested parties from the public and private sectors that were eligible to apply for Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) grants.
- 2 On October 3, 2007, the Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum (Chehalis-Centralia or the Applicant) filed with the Commission an application requesting a disbursement of \$4,850 from the GCPF to pay for a project related to installation of a gate and a physical barrier (ecology blocks) near the Spooner Road crossing.
- 3 Chehalis-Centralia seeks to construct a gate and physical barrier to prevent trespasser access to the railroad right-of-way.
- 4 The hazard being addressed is trespass activity on the Port of Chehalis-owned rail line at the Milburn ballast pile near the Spooner Road crossing (US DOT #848781E). Trespassers include all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, and four-wheel drive vehicles. The applicant contends that these vehicles drive over a large ballast pile at the site, filling the track with excess rock and making it unsafe for trains operating through the area.
- 5 A site visit by Commission Staff confirmed the existence of the safety problem described by the applicant. The proposed gate and physical barrier will prevent the current trespassers from being able to access the area.
- 6 Chehalis-Centralia seeks \$4,850 to pay for the cost of the gate and physical barrier. There currently are funds available to pay for the project.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the state of Washington having authority to approve and administer disbursements from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. *RCW 81.53.271 and RCW 81.53.281.*
- 8 (2) The project for which Chehalis-Centralia seeks disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund is eligible for funding consideration under Commission rules and complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271, RCW 81.53.281, and WAC 480-62.
- 9 (3) Commission Staff investigated the request based on the review criteria specified in the Commission's rules and recommended that it be granted, subject to specified conditions for administering the grant.
- 10 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 27, 2007.
- 11 (5) After reviewing Chehalis-Centralia's application filed on October 3, 2007, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 The Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum's application for disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund for installation of a gate and barriers near Chehalis, Washington, on Spooner Road, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$4,850.
 - (2) The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.

- (3) The Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum must sign and return the attached project agreement.
- (4) Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
- (5) The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than June 30, 2008.

The Commissioners, having determined this filing complies with RCW 81.53.030 and RCW 81.53.271, directed the Executive Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 27, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary