

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

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET TR-071983
)	
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 \$1,175 from the GCPF to pay for signage at four private railroad crossings near Chehalis, Washington, on SR-6 (two crossings), Twin Oaks Road and Clinton Road.
- 3 Chehalis-Centralia seeks to install or replace deteriorated signage at four private railroad crossings.
- 4 The hazard being addressed is increasing public awareness of train activity at these crossings and improving public safety. The applicant states it has many private crossings, but these four are the most dangerous because of their orientation with major roads and frequency of traffic. Two of the crossings have no signage of any kind and the other two have severely deteriorated signage.
- 5 A site visit by Commission Staff confirmed the existence of the safety problem described by the applicant. The proposed signage is needed. Commission staff also finds that the railroad should install retro-reflectorized tape on both sides of the post and on the back of the crossbuck and secure UTC-provided tags that show USDOT crossing numbers.
- 6 Chehalis-Centralia seeks \$1,175 to pay for the cost of the signage. 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 signage at four private crossings near Chehalis, Washington, on SR-6 (two crossings), Twin Oaks Road and Clinton Road, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$1,175.
 - (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