

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD,)	DOCKET TR-143666
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER 01
)	
SPOKANE COUNTY,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
)	RECONSTRUCT A PUBLIC
Respondent.)	HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE CROSSING
)	AT MULLINIX ROAD IN SPOKANE
)	COUNTY
)	
)	USDOT: 816605T
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On October 10, 2014, Union Pacific Railroad (Union Pacific or Petitioner) filed a petition with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) seeking approval to reconstruct a railroad-highway grade crossing at Mullinix Road in Spokane county. Union Pacific proposes add an additional track through the Mullinix Road crossing.
- 2 Spokane County (County) consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 Mullinix Road is a two-lane rural minor collector street with one lane in each direction. The County estimates average daily vehicle traffic over the crossing at 255 vehicles with up to ten percent commercial motor vehicles traveling over the crossing. Mullinix Road is not a school bus route. The posted legal speed limit is 25 miles per hour.
- 4 Union Pacific currently maintains one mainline track at this location. Up to eight freight trains per day traveling up to 60 miles per hour operate over the crossing. No passenger trains travel over the crossing.
- 5 Railroad warning devices at the Mullinix Road crossing consist of crossbucks, shoulder mounted LED lights and gates and advance warning signs.
- 6 Union Pacific proposes to extend the existing 4,500-foot Cheney siding by 5,000 feet. The siding extension project adds a second track on the north side of the existing mainline track which will also extend through the Mullinix Road crossing. The expanded siding will be used to facilitate incoming and outbound trains through the Cheney area. Union Pacific will not park trains over the Mullinix Road crossing.

- 7 Union Pacific proposes to relocate the existing railroad signal equipment in the northwest quadrant to accommodate the new siding track. The two tracks will be 15 feet apart from track center to track center. In addition a “2 Tracks” sign will be installed on each approach.
- 8 The proposed upgrades are in the interest of improving and safety and convenience for roadway users.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 9 (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.*
- 10 (2) The proposed reconstruction of a crossing involving a public railroad-highway grade crossing, as defined in RCW 81.53.010.
- 11 (3) RCW 81.53.261 and WAC 480-62-150 require that the Commission grant approval prior to reconstructing a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 12 (4) Commission staff investigated the petition and recommends that it be granted. All traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.*
- 13 (5) After examination of the petition filed by Union Pacific Railroad on October 10, 2014, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 14 The petition of Union Pacific Railroad to reconstruct a railroad-highway grade crossing at Mullinix Road and the Respondents’ tracks in Spokane county is granted, as follows:
- (1) The modifications must conform to those described in the petition.

- (2) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
- (3) Petitioner must notify Commission Staff within 30 days upon completion of this modification project.

The Secretary of the Commission has delegated authority over this matter pursuant to Order 03 in Docket A-090485. The Secretary finds this Order to be consistent with the public interest.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective November 12, 2014.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE: This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least fourteen (14) days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission's Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-904(2) and (3).