



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

*621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503*

*P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250*

*(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203*

Nov. 6, 2019

Stephen Semenick, Public Projects Manager  
BNSF Railway Company  
2454 Occidental Ave. S., Suite 1A  
Seattle, WA 98134

Sent via email and First Class mail

**RE: TR-190918 – Petition on Behalf of Whatcom County Public Works to Install Median Barriers at Cove Road (USDOT 084795Y)**

Dear Mr. Semenick:

On Nov. 5, 2019, Whatcom County Public Works (County) filed a petition with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) seeking approval to install median barriers at the Cove Road railroad crossing, identified as USDOT 084795Y, as part of a quiet zone improvement. BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) must respond with its position related to the petition within 20 days of the date of this letter.

**Please review the enclosed petition and respond by Nov. 27, 2019.** Your response options include:

- **Support the petition** – Complete and submit the Respondent's Waiver of Hearing form, which serves as BNSF's consent for the UTC to issue an order without further notice or hearing.
- **Do not support the petition** – Provide a response including BNSF's reasons for not supporting the petition, whether BNSF feels a hearing is necessary to resolve the issues, or suggestions for other courses of action, such as further discussion prior to going to hearing.

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If your response is not received by Nov. 27, UTC staff will request that the petition be set for hearing.

Please submit your written response to Betty Young, Rail Safety Program Advisor, at [betty.young@utc.wa.gov](mailto:betty.young@utc.wa.gov). If you have questions, Ms. Young can also be reached at (360) 664-1202.

Sincerely,



Kathy Hunter  
Director, Transportation Safety

Enclosure

cc: James Karcher, Whatcom County Public Works (without enclosure)