

- 4 The Railroad maintains one branch line track through the crossing. Daily train traffic averages 10 trains traveling at a maximum speed of 20 mph. Railroad warning devices at the grade crossing consist of “rotatable” cantilever-mounted signals with outmoded AC/DC circuitry.
- 5 WSDOT proposes to replace the existing signals with walk-out cantilever signals and gates, and SCX-1(AC/DC) circuitry. The upgrades are proposed in the interest of improving safety for roadway users. A multi-jurisdictional diagnostic team reviewed the crossing in 2003 and recommended that the warning devices be upgraded as proposed.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (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.*
- 7 (2) The Industrial Way grade crossing, identified as USDOT 840534K, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 8 (3) RCW 81.53.261 requires that the Commission grant approval prior to any changes in the method and manner of traffic control at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington.
- 9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted, subject to specified conditions.
- 10 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 28, 2005.
- 11 (6) After examination of the petition filed by WSDOT on August 5, 2005, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

12 The petition of the Washington State Department of Transportation to upgrade warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of Industrial Way and the petitioner's tracks, in Cowlitz County, Washington, is granted, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The upgrades must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
- (2) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
- (3) Traffic control devices and instrument housing must be installed in such a manner as to provide required clearances from both the roadway and railroad tracks.
- (4) 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 Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.261, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

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DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 28th day of September, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary