

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

PORT OF CENTRALIA,)	DOCKET TR-061232
Petitioner,)	
)	ORDER 01
v.)	
)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
PUGET SOUND & PACIFIC)	CONSTRUCT A PUBLIC RAILROAD-
RAILROAD,)	HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING AT
)	ROBERT THOMPSON ROAD
Respondent.)	
.....)	USDOT: 922982W
)	UTC: 40F 4.29

BACKGROUND

- 1 On July 27, 2006, the Port of Centralia (Port) filed a petition with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission), seeking approval to construct a public railroad-highway grade crossing. The location of the crossing is Milepost 4.5 at Robert Thompson Road, Port of Centralia, Washington. The tracks of the Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad cross the road at that location.

- 2 Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad has consented to an entry of an order by the commission without further notice or hearing.

- 3 Robert Thompson Road is classified as a two-lane industrial collector road (one lane in either direction) with a speed limit of 25 miles per hour. The Port estimates daily traffic through the crossing will consist of 490 vehicles within two years, including 100 trucks and no school busses.

- 4 Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad maintains one track through the crossing. Average daily train traffic consists of eight freight trains traveling at a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour. No passenger trains use this crossing.

- 5 The Port plans to install train detection circuitry, shoulder-mounted gates, and lights at the crossing to warning motorists of an approaching train.

- 6 Once this crossing is constructed, the Port plans to close a nearby private crossing.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (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.*
- 8 (2) The proposed construction of a crossing involves a public railroad-highway grade crossing, as defined in RCW 81.53.010.
- 9 (3) RCW 81.53.060 requires the commission grant approval prior to constructing a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 10 (4) Commission staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.
- 11 (5) The authority to enter this order has been delegated to the Executive Secretary or her designee pursuant to RCW 80.01.060(3) and WAC 480-07-904(1). WAC 480-07-904(3) provides that an affected person may ask the commission to review any such order. If you seek review of the order you must file your request no later than the fourteenth day after the date it is posted at www.wutc.wa.gov. The commission will schedule a request for review promptly for consideration and will notify the affected company, and any person requesting review, of the time and place of the open meeting at which review will be taken.
- 12 (6) After examination of the petition filed by the Port of Centralia on July 27, 2006, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 The petition of the Port of Centralia to construct a public railroad-highway grade crossing at the intersection of Robert Thompson Road and the tracks of the Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad at the Port of Centralia, Washington, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) All construction and installations must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.

- (2) Traffic control devices, advance warning signs, and pavement markings must comply with 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 for both rail and vehicular traffic.
- (4) Upon completion of the construction authorized herein, Petitioner must notify the Commission.

The Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.030, directed the Executive Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 22 day of September, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary