

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

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|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| In the Matter of the Application of |) | DOCKET TR-061652 |
| |) | |
| NORTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM |) | ORDER 01 |
| d/b/a Snoqualmie Valley Railroad |) | |
| |) | |
| Petitioner, |) | |
| |) | ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR |
| Requesting Disbursement from the |) | DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE |
| Grade Crossing Protective Fund |) | CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND |
| |) | |

BACKGROUND

- 1 On September 1, 2006, 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-051633 to various interested parties eligible to apply for Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) grants.

- 2 On October 27, 2006, the Northwest Railway Museum (railroad) filed an application with the Commission, requesting a disbursement of \$3,250 from the GCPF to pay for a project related to pedestrian and rail safety. The railroad seeks to install high-security switch locks at all 18 of its switches and install no trespassing signs for high traffic areas on its route.

- 3 The railroad described two incidents in the last 18 months where vandals tampered with existing switch locks. In one case, had it not been discovered by railroad personnel, it would have caused a train derailment.

- 4 Earlier this year, Commission Staff conducted a site visit and confirmed a high trespass problem as described by the railroad in its application.

- 5 The Northwest Railway Museum seeks \$3,250 to pay for the cost of the switch locks and signs. There are currently funds available to pay for the project.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (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. *Chapter 81.53.271 RCW and 81.53.281 RCW.*

- 7 (2) The project for which disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund is sought is eligible for funding consideration under Commission rules and complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271 and RCW 81.53.281.
- 8 (3) Commission staff investigated the request based on the review criteria specified in the rules and recommended that it be granted.
- 9 (4) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 13, 2006.
- 10 (5) After examination of the application filed by the Northwest Railway Museum on October 27, 2006, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 The request of the Northwest Railway Museum, proposing to install high-security switch locks and no trespassing signs, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$3,250.
 - (2) The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.
 - (3) Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement for costs incurred and verification by Commission staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
 - (4) The project must be completed no later than June 30, 2007.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 13, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary