

- 4 SR-271 is a two-lane roadway with a posted speed limit of 55 miles per hour. Average annual daily vehicle traffic through the crossing is estimated at 710 vehicles which includes six school buses. The crossing is part of an established freight corridor, with 100,000 to 300,000 tons of freight hauled by truck per year on this roadway. Two freight trains per day operate at 25 miles per hour over the single track mainline crossing. No passenger trains operate over the crossing.
- 5 The Petitioner is requesting a disbursement of \$20,000 to pay for a portion of the upgrades. The total approximate cost of the project is \$52,367.30. The Petitioner is contributing the remainder of the cost for the upgrades. An expenditure of \$20,000 from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund is available to help fund the improvements.

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, and authority to approve and administer disbursements from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. *RCW 81.53; RCW 81.53.271; RCW 81.53.281.*
- 7 (2) The grade crossing at SR-271, identified as USDOT 058905N, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 8 (3) RCW 81.53.261 requires the Commission grant approval prior to any changes to public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington. *See also WAC 480-62-150.*
- 9 (4) RCW 81.53.261 allows the Commission to disburse up to \$20,000 from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund to pay for the installation of a grade crossing protective device, without requiring the Petitioner to share the cost.
- 10 (5) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted, subject to specified conditions.
- 11 (6) After reviewing WSDOT's petition filed on October 31, 2012, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition and request for disbursement of funds.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 WSDOT's petition to upgrade warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at SR-271 and WIR's tracks, is granted. The cost of this upgrade shall be paid from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. Approval of the petition is subject to the following conditions:
- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$20,000.
 - (2) Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement for materials and labor, and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
 - (3) WSDOT must sign and return the attached project agreement.
 - (4) The project must be completed no later than June 30, 2013.
 - (5) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
 - (6) WSDOT must notify the Commission on completion of the upgrades authorized in this Order. Acceptance of the upgrades is subject to inspection by Commission Staff, and verification that the crossing is in full compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and the conditions specified in this Order.

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 December 6, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



DAVID W. DANNER, 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).