

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 MAR 19 PM 2:44

**Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio**

PUCO

# Memo

**To:** Docketing Division  
**From:** George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division  
**Re:** PUCO Case No. 07-260-RR-FED  
**Date:** March 19, 2008

On March 21, 2007 the Commission issued an Entry in the above referenced case that instructed CSX Transportation to install flashing lights and roadway gates at five grade crossings by March 21, 2008. Four of these crossing projects have been completed and placed in service with the exception being:

Crawford County, near Galion, Polk Township, Biddle Rd/TR 44, DOT# 262-041C

In phone conferences with CSX held on December 6, 2007 and February 19, 2008 CSX stated that they did not anticipate any problem with completing the projects by the ordered deadline. This was restated during frequent phone call between staff and CSX as recently as the week of March 10, 2008 and e-mails on March 5 and 13, 2008.

On March 19, 2008 CSX contacted staff by phone to state that the Biddle Road crossing would not be placed in service by the ordered deadline. CSX field personnel attempting to place the crossing in service discovered that the Grade Crossing Predictor (GCP) operating frequency engineered for Biddle Road interferes with an adjacent grade crossing frequency. CSX further stated that field personnel discovered that for unknown reasons the proposed operating frequency caused electrical interference with the adjacent crossing circuits.

On March 19, 2008 CSX filed in this docket a request for a thirty day extension of time in which to complete this project. All of the above information was included in the request.

Staff notes that when the Commission considers an extension request, the request is typically made ten days or more prior to the ordered installation date of a project. However, in this instance CSX did not discover the problem until the deadline was three days away. In light of this staff recommends that the extension request be granted, but defers to the Commission as to whether this request will be granted.

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record

**Ms Susan Kirkland**

**Ohio Rail Development Commission**

**50 W Broad St, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**Columbus, Oh 43215**

**Mr. Mel McNichols**

**CSX Transportation**

**500 Water St, J-301**

**Jacksonville, Fl 32202**

**Polk Township Trustees**

**5827 Monett-New Winchester Rd**

**Galion, Oh 44833**