

FAX

09-995-RR-FED

WHEELING & LAKE ERIE RAILWAY COMPANY

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2 May 2011

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Attn: Docketing Division 13th Floor
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re: Request to modify due date for project 09-995-RR-FED
Prospect Street, Hartville, DOT 472-625A
Maple Street SR619, Hartville, DOT 472-624T

Dear Commission,

This is a request to revise the due date for the warning system upgrade at the identified crossings in the town of Hartville. The project has experienced delays due to several factors I am listing below. Each has contributed in it's own way to cause us to be unable to meet the current deadline.

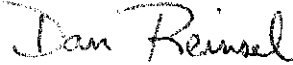
1. The interconnect required clearance times in excess of what a basic system is capable of providing given the condition of the track's electronic characteristics. The time required called for circuits approaching 4,000 feet in length in both the north and south directions. Our experience with circuits in jointed rail with existing ballast resistance levels prevents us from supporting circuits in excess of 2,000 feet.
2. The design required the use of traffic loops and four quadrant gates. This involves milling and repaving of the streets at the crossing.
3. Some time was lost exploring the option of installing continuous welded rail for the 8,000 feet to overcome the track resistance issues but this became cost prohibitive and had to be abandoned.
4. The overall cost of the project significantly increased and required additional funds be secured by the ORDC thru FHWA during which the project had to be placed on hold.
5. The Village of Hartville required additional time to redesign their traffic control systems and provide estimates to the project.
6. The village will be unable to have their portion of the traffic control system in place by the existing deadline.
7. The Village of Hartville has to address culvert issues around the crossing to provide proper drainage for street runoff in the area of the project.

Current delivery for the Railroad materials is scheduled for June 22nd. Immediately following delivery the Railroad's contractor CTC will begin their installation. This is expected to last until

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at least July 15th. Prior to CTC's arrival the site will be prepped with the installation of gate foundations, conduits, pull boxes, electric service, and other supporting structures. At this time I would request the PUCO revise the due date for the Railroad warning devices to August 1st. Based on the information at-hand I cannot predict the date the Village will be able to have their portion of the traffic control interconnect fully functional. We have the assurance from the Village that they will be making every attempt to ensure no time is lost and they will have their portion of the system up and running as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,



Dan Reinsel

C: ORDC, Mike Forte
PUCO, Jill Henry
PUCO George Martin