

FILE

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Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio

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PUCO

Memo

To: Docketing Division
From: George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division *REM*
Re: PUCO Case No. 09-995-RR-FED Request of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway to complete grade crossing projects in the Village of Hartville, Stark County
Date: May 2, 2011

By its Entry dated November 12, 2009, the Commission ordered the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway (WE) to install flashing lights and roadway gates at Maple St/SR 619, DOT# 472624T, and N Prospect Ave/CR 56, DOT# 472625A, in the Village of Hartville, Stark County on or before May 11, 2011. The Entry also ordered the interconnection of highway traffic signals with the railroad warning devices.

The funding for this project was secured through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

On May 2, 2011, WE filed in this docket a request for an extension of time to complete these projects, until August 1, 2011. WE states that the clearance time required by the interconnection resulted in approach lengths for crossing circuitry of 4,000 feet either side of the crossing (WE reported this on June 30, 2010). The design for these locations required WE to redesign for four-quadrant gates, with an increase in the project cost. Additionally, the Village of Hartville required additional time to redesign the traffic signal portion of the project. The Village also has yet to address culvert issues at the crossings to provide proper drainage.

Staff has been aware of the issues surrounding this project since June 30, 2010, and finds that WE's is well made, though not timely. Staff recommends that the Commission grant this request.

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record

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Technician, *[Signature]* Date Processed *5-2-11*

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