

FILE

Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio

Memo

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2012 JUL 19 AM 11:55

PUCO

To: Docketing Division
From: Jill Henry, Rail Specialist, Rail Division
Cc: PUCO Legal Department
Date: 7/19/12



Re: PUCO Case No. 12-1025-RR-STP- In the matter of a request for Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company to install active grade crossing warning devices in Wayne County, Sugar Creek Township, at Kohler Road (DOT#473-178E).

On March 9, 2012, Commission Staff, the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC), Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company (WE), and Sugar Creek Township, Wayne County, Ohio entered into an agreement (attached) whereby active grade crossing warning devices would be installed in Wayne County, Sugar Creek Township, at Kohler Road (DOT#473-178E).

On April 11, 2012, the Commission issued a Finding and Order approving the project and requiring the submission of plans and estimates by July 11, 2012.

On June 26, 2012, WE filed with the Rail Division plans and estimates for the project.

The plans and estimates submitted by WE have been reviewed and authorization is recommended. (See attached documentation.)

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician AS Date Processed 7/19/12



Public Utilities Commission

John R. Kasich, Governor
Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman

Commissioners

Cheryl Roberto
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Andre T. Porter
Lynn Slaby

July 19, 2012

Mr. Dan Reinsel
Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company
Chief, Signals & Communications
100 E. First Street
Brewster, Ohio 44613

Re: Kohler Road (DOT#473-178E)

Mr. Reinsel:

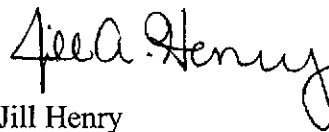
Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad (WE) is now authorized to proceed with field construction for the above referenced project. This authorization is contingent upon accepting the following:

- 1) WE will make any adjustments to the plans noted in the field report docketed July 19, 2012 (Attached).
- 2) WE will provide PUCO Staff with the final estimates and the material package itemization once bidding for the material package is complete.
- 3) WE will furnish e-mail, fax, or phone notification five (5) working days prior to the date work will start at the project site. Notification to be made to Jill Henry, PUCO, at E-MAIL jill.henry@puc.state.oh.us , FAX 614-995-5535, or PHONE 614-466-0435 **and** Joe Reinhardt, ORDC, at E-MAIL joe.reinhardt@dot.state.oh.us , or PHONE 614-580-7728.
- 4) WE will arrange for utilities to be relocated and/or dropped (as soon as possible) at the project site through the applicable utility company.
- 5) WE will arrange for utilities to be located at the project site by the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) prior to any construction activities at the site. Utilities that are not participating members of the OUPS service must be contacted directly by WE.
- 6) WE's project foreman will notify the PUCO Railroad Inspector and ORDC's Joe Reinhardt of any changes in the scope of work, cost overruns, material changes, etc. which are not included in the approved plan and estimates and secure approval of same before the work is performed.
- 7) WE will furnish three (3) copies of each partial bill to the PUCO and ORDC.

- 8) WE will furnish three (3) copies of the final-inclusive bill to PUCO and ORDC stating that exact dates of starting and completing work, the initial and final dates of construction and location where the accounts may be audited.
- 9) WE will furnish as-built detailed circuit plans directly to the PUCO and ORDC.
- 10) WE is to schedule and complete the subject project by April 11, 2013. If any extraordinary circumstances unique to this project occur, please notify the Commission's rail staff and ORDC immediately.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill A. Henry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Henry
Rail Specialist
PUCO Rail Division

Enclosure

cc: Sugar Creek Township; File

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
RAIL DIVISION**

Date of Assignment: June 26, 2012

Date of Inspection: June 26, 2012 & July 11 & 16, 2012

Subject: Plans and estimates review for active warning devices at rail grade crossings Kohler Road (DOT#473-178E), Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad (WE), Sugar Creek Township, Wayne County

DOT #: 473-178E

FINDINGS

On June 26, 2012, the plans and estimates for the above mentioned crossings were received from Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad. They were reviewed by Shawn Zurfley, PUCO/FRA Rail Inspector, Joe Reinhardt, Project Manager Ohio Rail Development Commission, and Jill Henry, PUCO Rail Specialist.

Kohler Road

Kohler Road is a 2-lane roadway traveling North/South and intersecting a single track of WE traveling at an angle across Kohler Road. Existing warning devices consist of crossbucks.

In reviewing the site plans & estimates, Staff requested the following additional information from WE and received the responses as noted below.

- 1) The Site layout plan details the warning time calculations.
 - a. Could you please explain how the 12 sec clearance time was determined?
 - b. Please explain the reason for the 5 sec buffer time?

Answer: WE provided calculation details for staff review and approval.

- 2) The equipment house is to be located in the NE quadrant. Why is the equipment house only set 15' from the edge of the rail? The Ohio MUTCD guidance in Section 8C.01 recommends "at least 25' from the nearest rail".

Answer: The design will be revised to reflect a distance of 25 feet from the near rail since the Railroad does have a right of way at this location that allows for this separation, ref. MUTCD 8D.01 . WE provided staff with a revised site plan indicating this change.

- 3) The Crosier estimate list includes 4" conduit. We assume that this is for boring purposes since Crosier does all of the site work preparation and underground boring. The Field Materials list for CTC lists 4" pipe conduit. What is this to be used for?

Answer: The CTC installation crew that arrives after the Crosier work performs some conduit installation that cannot be performed by Crosier. Specifically this involves conduit runs from the case side pull box into the control cabinet. This typically requires several sweep 90 degree 4" conduits and fittings along with cut to length sections of straight conduit. We have since revised the typical container package to reflect the use of these items. In the past they were purchased locally on a case by case basis.

- 4) The Field Materials list from CTC lists Tape Marker – Buried RR Cable. Please explain what this will be used for since it was our understanding that all underground work is done by boring.

Answer: The CTC crew does perform some additional underground cable installation that is not in the pre-installed conduit. Mainly this involves the final leg of the track wire runs to the rail sections.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

We reviewed the plans and preliminary estimates for the proposed project. The plans appear to be fundamentally correct. WE will need to provide Staff with a finalized copy of the project estimates and material package itemization once bidding for the material package is complete. Construction authorization should be granted for this project.

Jill Henry
PUCO Rail Specialist
Date: July 19, 2012