


NC  
FILE

Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio

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# Memo

**To:** Docketing Division  
**From:** George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division   
**Re:** In the matter of the authorization of the Youngstown & Austintown Railroad to install an active grade crossing warning device in the City of Youngstown, Mahoning County  
**Date:** March 24, 2014

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The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) has authorized funding for Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) to install **mast-mounted flashing lights and gates** at Mahoning County, City of Youngstown, Hazelwood Ave, DOT# 262367T. The crossing was surveyed due to its hazard ranking on May 16, 2013, and was found to warrant the upgrade.

The project will be paid for with federal funds, and is actual cost. As the plan and estimate for the project has been submitted and approved, staff requests a Finding & Order with completion due in nine months. Construction may commence at once. Staff requests that the following language be incorporated in the Entry:

**It is expected that all work necessary for FHWA acceptance of the warning devices will be completed by the in-service due date and that the railroad will be responsible for this work. This work includes, but is not limited to:**

**Any ancillary work to make the warning devices function as designed and visible to the roadway user, and  
MUTCD compliance, including minor roadway work if necessary.**

A suggested case coding and heading would be:

PUCO Case No. 14- **0472** -RR-FED In the matter of the authorization of the Youngstown & Austintown Railroad to install and active grade crossing warning device in the City of Youngstown, Mahoning County

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record.

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV  
2014 MAR 24 PM 2:43  
PUCO

Ms Cathy Stout

Ohio Rail Development Commission

1980 W Broad St, Mailstop # 3140

Columbus, Oh 43223

Mr John Hilborn

Vice President Engineering

Ohio Central System (YARR)

4349 Easton Way, Ste 110

Columbus, Oh 43219

Mr Khidar Bhide

City of Youngstown Engineering Department

5th Floor, City Hall

26 South Phelps Street

Youngstown, OH 44503

Ohio Edison

# OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

**TO:** Randall Schumacher, Supervisor, Rail Division, PUCO  
**FROM:** Cathy Stout, Manager, Safety Section, ORDC  
**BY:** Mike Forte, Project Manager, ORDC *MDF*  
**SUBJECT:** Grade Crossing Warning Device Project  
Hazelwood Ave./YARR  
U.S. DOT 262 367T  
City of Youngstown, Mahoning County  
**DATE:** March 20, 2014

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The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) established a diagnostic survey at the subject location on May 16, 2013. The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) attended the review. The Diagnostic Team recommended the improvement of warning devices to flashing lights and roadway gates. Copies of the diagnostic review form and the plan and estimate are attached.

PE has already been provided by the railroad. ORDC approves the site plans and estimates as provided. Please issue a construction-only order for the project outlined above. This authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that an approved estimate may contain entries for items or activities that may be cited and found to be ineligible for federal participation during the project audit.

It is expected that all work necessary for FHWA acceptance of the warning devices will be completed by the in-service due date and that the railroad will be responsible for this work. This work includes, but is not limited to:

- any ancillary work to make warning devices function as designed and visible to the roadway user, and
- MUTCD compliance – including minor roadway work if necessary.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

Attachment: Diagnostic Review  
Plan & Estimate

c: George Martin, PUCO - S. Arduini - M. Forte' (file)



# OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

1980 West Broad Street, Columbus OH 43233

John R. Kasich, Governor

March 20, 2014

Mr. John Hilborn  
Vice President Engineering  
Ohio Central Railroad Inc.  
4349 Easton Way, Suite 110  
Columbus, Ohio 43219

Re: Grade Crossing Warning Device Project  
Hazelwood Avenue/Youngstown & Austintown Railroad, U.S. DOT 262 367T  
City of Youngstown  
PID 96172

Dear Mr. Hilborn:

The Youngstown & Austintown Railroad (YARR) plan and estimate provided in a February 24 and 25, 2014 emails for the referenced project have been reviewed and are acceptable. YARR may proceed with construction of the proposed grade crossing warning system in accordance with the abbreviated plan and the provisions set forth in General Agreement No. 19-A dated May 28, 2001.

This authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that the approved estimate may contain entries for items or activities that may be cited and found to be ineligible for federal participation during the project audit.

This authorization is contingent upon YARR accepting the following instructions:

1. YARR will furnish notification five (5) working days prior to the date work will start to George Martin, PUCO Railroad Division at 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, telephone Number (614) 752-9107, FAX (614) 995-5535 or e-mail at [George.Martin@puc.state.oh.us](mailto:George.Martin@puc.state.oh.us).
2. YARR's project foreman will furnish email notification five (5) working days prior to the date work will start at the project site to me at [Mike.Forte@dot.state.oh.us](mailto:Mike.Forte@dot.state.oh.us). I may also be reached at telephone number (614) 374-9287. YARR's project foreman will notify the same of any stops and re-starts of the work activity and of the date work was completed for the project;



[www.rail.ohio.gov](http://www.rail.ohio.gov)

phone: 614.644.0306

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John Hilborn

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3. YARR 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 service must be contacted directly by YARR;
4. YARR's project foremen will notify me of any changes in the scope of work, cost overruns, material changes, etc. which are not included in the approved plan and estimate and secure approval of same before the work is performed;
5. YARR will furnish two (2) copies of each partial bill to ORDC. Please find the enclosed Purchase Order to reference when billing;
6. YARR will furnish two (2) copies of the final all - inclusive bill to ORDC Office stating the exact dates of starting and completing work, the initial and final dates of construction and location where the accounts may be audited.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

Respectfully,



Michael Forte  
Project Manager

MF:mf

Attachment: P.O.

c: G. Martin (PUCO) – S. Arduini - File (M. Forte')