

FILE

**Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio**

Memo

To: Docketing Division
From: George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division
Re: PUCO Case No 15-1054-RR-FED, Request for case dismissal
Date: March 25, 2016



By its Finding & Order dated July 8, 2015, the Commission ordered that Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) install mast-mounted flashing lights and roadway gates Athens County, Village of Glouster, Braun St, DOT# 513746S, on or before April 8, 2016.

On March 21, 2016, NS took the portion of rail line that includes this crossing, the West Virginia Secondary, out of service due to steadily declining business. This line runs from Columbus through Fairfield, Perry, Athens and Meigs Counties. The Virginia and Pocahontas Divisions are being consolidated, and movements from this line are being shifted over to the line running from Portsmouth to Columbus. Customers between Columbus and Thurston will receive local NS service. From New Lexington to Glouster, the line will be served by the Ohio Southern Railroad (OSRR). All told, the portion of the line being idled stretches from milepost RR 66.0 to RR 116.5.

On March 24, 2016, counsel for NS filed a request that the project be cancelled and the case dismissed. On March 25, 2016, the Ohio Rail Development Commission filed a memo in support, stating further that federal funding for the project is being cancelled.

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the request, and dismiss this case.

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C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record