

Memo

To: Docketing Division

From: Thomas Persinger, Rail Project Specialist, Rail Division

Date: 2-1-2023

Re: PUCO Cases No. 18-1606-RR-RCP, 18-1902-RR-RCP, 19-1488-RR-RCP, and 19-1891-RR-RCP, In the Matter of a Request by the Mahoning County Engineer and the Village of Sebring for an Exemption from Stopping for School Buses and Hazardous Materials Vehicles at 12 Railroad Crossings in Mahoning County.

BACKGROUND

On October 18, 2018, the Mahoning County Engineer's Office filed a request for exemption from stopping for school buses and hazardous material vehicles at eight grade crossings in Mahoning County, Ohio. These crossings are:

DOT #	Street Name
502-462D	C.R. 84/Alliance Sebring Road
502-464S	C.R. 22/Courtney Road
502-465Y	C.R. 23/North 12 th Street
502-466F	C.R. 28/West Middletown Road
502-467M	C.R. 25/Beloit Snodes Road
502-471C	C.R. 32/Western Reserve Road
502-468U	T.R. 29/Smith Goshen Road
502-469B	T.R. 30/Calla Road

On February 1, 2019, the Mahoning County Engineer's Office filed another request for exemption from stopping for school buses and hazardous material vehicles at the C.R. 49/Weaver Road (DOT#502-477T) grade crossing in Mahoning County, Ohio.

On June 25, 2019, amended on October 9, 2019, the Village of Sebring filed a request for exemption from stopping for school buses and hazardous material vehicles at the North Johnson Road (DOT#502-463K) grade crossing in Mahoning County, Ohio.

On October 11, 2019, the Mahoning County Engineer's Office filed a request for exemption from stopping for school buses and hazardous material vehicles at the C.R.

11/Oyster Road (DOT#544-765D) and C.R. 26/South Range Road (DOT#544-764W) grade crossings in Mahoning County, Ohio.

On December 13, 2019, Staff filed an investigative report that recommended the exemption be granted. On November 15, 2019, a local public hearing was held on the matter. Ms. Sherri Malloy, Transportation Supervisor at West Branch Local Schools, testified that he believes safety will be increased if vehicles are not stopping at the crossing. Douglas McGlynn, Superintendent of Western Reserve Local Schools, testified safety will be increased since the exemption will present close calls involving impatient drivers trying to pass the buses. Mr. Bob Durbin of the Mahoning County Engineer's Office also testified to support the exemption for reasons given by Ms. Malloy and Mr. McGlynn. On February 26, 2020, the Commission ordered that the exemption be granted. The Commission further ordered that the Mahoning County Engineer, Goshen Township, and Village of Sebring place exemption signage at the noted crossings. NS must place a stop and flag order on the crossing for any future train movements over the crossings.

FINDINGS

On January 27, 2021, our local field inspector visited the crossing and verified the signage is in place (See attached pictures).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Mahoning County, Goshen Township, and the Village of Sebring have complied with the Commission Order by installing the exemption signage. Accordingly, the case should be closed.

CR 84/Alliance Sebring Road (DOT# 502-462D)
Mahoning County, Ohio

East View



West View



CR 22/Courtney Road (DOT# 502-464S)
Mahoning County, Ohio
East View



West View



CR 23/North 12th Street (DOT# 502-465Y)
Mahoning County, Ohio
North View



South View



CR 28/W. Middletown Road (DOT# 502-466F)
Mahoning County, Ohio
East View



West View



CR 25/Beloit Snodes Road (DOT# 502-467M)
Mahoning County, Ohio
North View



South View



CR 32/Western Reserve Road (DOT# 502-471C)
Mahoning County, Ohio

Picture 1



Picture 2



TR 29/Smith Goshen Road (DOT# 502-468U)
Mahoning County, Ohio
Picture 1



Picture 2



TR 30/Calla Road (DOT# 502-469B)
Mahoning County, Ohio
Picture 1



Picture 2



CR 49/Weaver Road (DOT# 502-477T)
Mahoning County, Ohio
Picture 1



Picture 2



North Johnson Road (DOT# 502-463K)
Mahoning County, Ohio
Picture 1



Picture 2



C.R. 11/Oyster Road (DOT# 544-765D)
Mahoning County, Ohio

Picture 1



Picture 2



C.R. 11/Oyster Road (DOT# 544-765D)
Mahoning County, Ohio

Picture 1



Picture 2



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RCP**

Summary: Memo Closing Case In the Matter of a Request by the Mahoning County Engineer and the Village of Sebring for an Exemption from Stopping for School Buses and Hazardous Materials Vehicles at 12 Railroad Crossings in Mahoning County. electronically filed by Mr. Thomas Persinger on behalf of PUCO/Rail Division