

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Authorization of the)
Indiana & Ohio Railroad to Construct an) Case No. 07-82-RR-FED
Active Grade Crossing Warning Device in)
Clinton County.)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) On January 25, 2007, the Commission's railroad staff filed a memorandum stating that The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) authorized the Indiana & Ohio Railroad (INOH) to install new flashing lights and roadway gates at the State Route 72 grade crossing (151-941L), located in Clinton County.
- (2) Staff recommended authorization for preliminary engineering within 90 days and a construction deadline of one year for the project.
- (3) INOH should submit to the Commission and ORDC by May 28, 2007, site plans and cost estimates for the project. Within seven days thereafter, INOH should file a letter in this docket advising that the site plans and costs estimates have been submitted to the Commission and ORDC. Following submission and approval of the site plans and cost estimates by ORDC, and, unless otherwise directed, INOH is hereby authorized to acquire project materials and to commence construction as detailed in the letter of construction authorization. The Commission will issue no further construction authorization. Further, the construction of active warning devices at the grade crossing should be completed by February 28, 2008.
- (4) In order to expedite the activation of the warning devices, the Commission no longer requires railroad companies to delay such activation pending final inspection by staff. However, the railroad should notify staff and ORDC 30 days before the projected date of completion. At the time the Commission or ORDC staff makes its final inspection of the devices and if it finds that the identified installation is completed and has been

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put in service, staff should file a memorandum in this docket directing the docketing division to close this case of record.

- (5) With the intention of promoting increased public safety during the pendency of the project, the Commission urges the appropriate local government agencies to make an immediate assessment of interim physical improvements, which would enhance driver awareness at the crossing. The Commission may provide assistance in funding improvements such as rumble strips, illumination, signs, or other safety enhancements at the project locations. Applications for such funding should be made to the Commission's Transportation Department, Rail Division, which shall review all proposals. In the event the department finds the improvements appropriate, the department director is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the local government agency, and obligate up to \$5,000 from the State Grade Crossing Safety Fund for such improvements. However, the local government agency should not initiate any improvements until a contract has been executed.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That INOH submit to the Commission and ORDC site plans and cost estimates for the project by May 28, 2007. It is, further,

ORDERED, That, by June 4, 2007, INOH file a letter in this docket advising that it has submitted site plans and cost estimates to the Commission and ORDC. It is, further,

ORDERED, That, following approval of site plans and cost estimates by ORDC, INOH proceed with construction of the project, with construction to be completed by February 28, 2008. It is, further,

ORDERED, That INOH follow the detailed instructions as outlined in the ORDC letter of construction authorization. It is, further,

ORDERED, That INOH notify the Commission and ORDC 30 days before the projected date of completion. It is, further,

ORDERED, That, at the time staff or ORDC makes its final inspection and if it finds that the installation at the grade crossing is completed and has been put in service, staff will file a memorandum in this docket directing the docketing division to close this case of record. It is, further,

ORDERED, That copies of this entry be served upon the INOH and its counsel, ORDC, Clinton County Commission, and all interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman

Ronda Hartman Fergus

Judith A. Jones

Valerie A. Lemmie

Donald L. Mason

SEF:ct

Entered in the Journal

FEB 28 2007

Renee J. Jenkins
Renee J. Jenkins
Secretary