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Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio

PUCO

**Memo**

TO: Docketing Division

FROM: Bonnie J. Johrendt, Grade Crossing Planner

RE: PUCO CASE No. 07-302-RR-STP installation of active warning at Rocky Ridge Rd. (473-774E), Ottawa County.

DATE: April 22, 2008

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By its Entry issued April 25, 2007, this Commission ordered Norfolk Southern Company (NS) under the State Funded Grade Crossing Warning Program to install roadway gates and flashing lights (project) at Rocky Ridge Rd. (473-774E), Ottawa County, and established an in-service deadline of April 25, 2008.

By way of a phone conference on February 26, 2008, PUCO rail staff (Staff) reminded NS that this project has an in-service deadline of April 25, 2008 and that if any problems arise that may affect this in-service deadline, the Commission must be notified immediately.

By way of periodic field inspections, Staff discovered that construction of this project had started and was almost completed, but not yet placed in service.

By the first week of April, NS had not yet notified the Commission that the subject project had been placed in-service. Staff scheduled a field review. In the mean time, on April 8, 2008 a voice-mail was left and on April 9, 2008 an e-mail was forward to NS requesting an update on this project. These messages were not returned. Staff's field review of this project site, discovered that it was still not completed and in-service. On Tuesday April 15, 2008, Staff contacted NS and was informed that there was an electrical problem at this site.

On April 16, 2008, NS submitted a 30 day extension request for this project stating that the telephone company needs additional time to install the pole line which will enable the electric company to provide AC service at the grade crossing which will enable this project to be placed in-service. On April 17, 2008, Staff requested that NS submit a time-line on its efforts to get electrical service installed at this site (attached).

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It appears that some of the delay may have been the result of inaction by one of the NS contractors working on this project. Staff believes that NS should be reminded that as far as the Commission is concerned, NS alone is responsible for timely complying with Commission orders. NS needs to improve its project tracking and needs to insure that its project vendors and contractors perform their duties in a timely manner.

Staff recommends that any extension granted in this case be limited to 30 days, until May 25, 2008, to place this project in-service. Staff recommends that no further extensions be granted in this case.

c: Scott Farkas, PUCO Legal  
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Mr.R.Ray  
Adm-Highway Grade Crossings  
Atlanta,GA

April 17,2008

Rick,

The following is what I have from my notes. I am also attaching what I have as far as billing or correspondence.

1. About November 21 2007, Westfield Electric contacted to install new service drop for crossing location at Rockyridge Rd, Rockyridge,OH.
2. November 27<sup>th</sup>, location plan sent to Westfield Electric giving proposed drop location.
3. December 6<sup>th</sup> 2007, service drop pole set at Rockyridge Rd.
4. Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, check on status of service drop, on-site....Drop set but no distribution line present.
5. Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, Norfolk Southern construction forces arrive at location. No distribution line present.
6. Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, contact vendor as to status. Application need to be made to Toledo Edison by N/S ? Request vendor make application...My belief this was part of the installation package. Vendor make application about March 3,2008
7. March 5<sup>th</sup>,Don Williamson Toledo Edison, will need to establish location address to process application.
8. March 6<sup>th</sup>, get address to Williamson for processing.
9. March 12<sup>th</sup>.....Toledo Edison will have other (Phone Company???) set pole line to establish service. " May not be in by April 25<sup>th</sup>", I talked with Williamson, Toledo Edison....billing status and amount...he send to Columbus, Oh location, have sent direct to me for my handling...no date yet on poleline construction from phone company.
10. March 18<sup>th</sup>, e-mail bill to D.Keith for payment
11. March 24<sup>th</sup>, e-mail T.McClure with possible extension request.
12. March 25<sup>th</sup>, e-mail D.Keith with updated bill for payment
13. April 14<sup>th</sup>, contact Williamson on status of service Rockyridge, no progress or schedule as of this date.
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