## **Public Utilities Commission of Ohio**

# Memo

To:

**Docketing Division** 

From:

Jill Henry, Rail Specialist, Rail Division\

Cc:

**PUCO Legal Department** 

Date:

7/21/10

**Re:** PUCO Case No. 10-204-RR-STP- In the matter of a request for CSX Transportation, Inc. to install active grade crossing warning devices in Butler County, Oxford Township at Taylor Rd.(DOT#154-092R) and Ringwood Rd. (DOT#154-089H).

On January 21, 2010, Commission Staff, The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC), CSX Transportation, Inc.(CSX), and Oxford Township, Butler County, Ohio entered into an agreement whereby active grade crossing warning devices would be installed in Butler County, Oxford Township at Ringwood Rd. (DOT#154-089H).

On February 12, 2010, The Ohio Rail Development Commission authorized funding for the project.

On March 3, 2010, the Commission issued a Finding and Order approving the project and requiring the submission of plans and estimates by June 3, 2010.

On June 2, 2010, CSX filed with the Rail Division plans and estimates for the project.

The plans and estimates submitted by CSX have been reviewed and authorization for the Ringwood Road project by the PUCO and ORDC is recommended.

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Ted Strickland, Governor Alan R. Schriber, Chairman Ronda Hartman Fergus Valerie A. Lemmie Paul A. Centolella Cheryl Roberto

July 21, 2010

CSX Transportation, Inc. Mr. Benjamin Biesterveld Principal Engineer Public Projects 500 Water Street-J301 Jacksonville, FL 32202

> Re: CSX Grade Crossing, Ringwood Road DOT#154-089H, Oxford Township, Butler County

#### Mr. Biesterveld:

CSX is now authorized to proceed with field construction for the above referenced project. This authorization is contingent upon accepting the following:

- 1) CSX will make any adjustments to the plans noted in the field report docketed June 21, 2010 (Attached).
- 2) CSX will furnish prior e-mailed, faxed or phone notification five (5) working days prior to the start of field construction to Jill Henry, PUCO, at E-MAIL <a href="mailto:jill.henry@puc.state.oh.us">jill.henry@puc.state.oh.us</a>, or FAX 614-995-5535, and Tim Perkins, ORDC, at E-MAIL <a href="mailto:Tim.Perkins@dot.state.oh.us">Tim.Perkins@dot.state.oh.us</a>, or PHONE 614-580-7749.
- 3) CSX's project foreman will also notify the PUCO and ORDC of any stops and re-starts of the work activity and of the date work was completed for the project.
- 4) CSX will arrange for utilities to be relocated and/or dropped (as soon as possible) at the project site through the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) and prior to any construction activities. Utilities that are not participating members of the OUPS service must be contacted directly by CSX.
- 5) CSX's project foreman will notify the PUCO Railroad Inspector and ORDC's Tim Perkins of any changes in the scope of work, cost overruns, material changes, etc. which are not included in the approved plan and estimates and secure approval of same before the work is performed.
- 6) CSX will furnish three (3) copies of each partial bill to the PUCO and ORDC.
- 7) CSX will furnish three (3) copies of the final-inclusive bill to PUCO and ORDC stating that exact dates of starting and completing work, the initial and final dates of construction and location where the accounts may be audited.
- 8) CSX will furnish as-built detailed circuit plans directly to PUCO and ORDC.

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9) CSX is to schedule and complete the subject project by March 3, 2011. If any extraordinary circumstances unique to this project occur, please notify the Commission's rail staff and the ORDC immediately.

Thank you for you cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jill Henry

Rail Specialist

**PUCO** Rail Division

Enclosure

cc: LHA; ORDC; File

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT RAIL DIVISION

Date of Assignment: June 2, 2010

Date of Inspection: June 10, 2010

Subject: Plans and estimates review for active warning devices at the Ringwood Road

(DOT#154-089H) crossing, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSX), Butler County

DOT #: 154-089H

#### **FINDINGS**

#### Office Review

On June 11, 2010, Shawn Zurfley, PUCO/FRA Rail Inspector conducted an office review of the plans and estimates for both crossings. Mr. Zurfley stated the following based on his review:

The plans appear to be fundamentally correct for Ringwood Road. The cost estimate appears to contain the usual and customary charges.

#### Field Review

On June 10, 2010, an on-site review of plans and estimates was performed at the crossing by Tim Perkins, Ohio Rail Development Commission, Grade Crossing Specialist, and Jill Henry, PUCO Rail Specialist.

#### Ringwood Road

Ringwood Road is a 2-lane roadway traveling East/West and interesting one track of CSX traveling North/South across Ringwood Road. Existing warning devices consist of advanced warnings signs, pavement markings, and crossbucks.

In reviewing the site plans for the Ringwood Road crossing, the plans appear to be fundamentally correct. The electric pole located in the SW Quadrant needs to be moved to avoid blockage of the flasher devices. The trees in the NE Quadrant need to be trimmed to avoid blockage of the flasher devices.

On June 14, 2010, Oxford Township was contacted to discuss the two issues raised during field review. The township agreed to address the tree issues in the NE Quadrant and provided contact information for the Butler Rural Electric Company.

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Ringwood Rd.
CSX Transportation, Inc.

On June 30, 2010, Butler Rural Electric was provided a site plan for review. They reviewed the field situation and offered to move the pole 50'West of the crossing.

### **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

The plans and estimates for the proposed project have been reviewed. The plans and estimates appear to be fundamentally correct. Additionally, Oxford Township has agreed to address the tree blockage issues and the electric company will be moving the electric pole obstruction. Construction authorization should be granted for this project.

Jill Henry PUCO Rail Specialist Date: July 21, 2010