

Memo

To: Docketing Division

From: Jill Henry, Rail Specialist, Rail Division

Cc: PUCO Legal Department

Date: 4/4/17

Re: PUCO Case No. 16-1281-RR-STP- In the Matter of a Request for the Installation of Active Warning Devices at the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company Grade Crossing Trux Street/SR 603 (DOT#001-976A), in Plymouth, Ohio.

On June 13, 2016, Commission Staff (PUCO), the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC), Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad (WE), and the Village of Plymouth (LHA) entered into an agreement whereby active grade crossing warning devices would be installed in the Village of Plymouth, at Trux Street/SR 603 (DOT#001-976A).

On July 6, 2016, the Commission issued a Finding and Order approving the project, requiring plans and estimates by October 4, 2016, and ordering project completion by July 6, 2017.

On October 17, 2016, the Rail Division received the plans and estimates for the project.

The plans and estimates submitted by WE have been reviewed and authorization is recommended. (See attached documentation.)



Public Utilities Commission

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

Commissioners

Lynn Slaby
M. Beth Trombold
Thomas W. Johnson
Lawrence K. Friedeman

April 4, 2017

Mr. Tim Andrews
Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company
Signals & Communications Supervisor
100 E. First Street
Brewster, Ohio 44613

Re: WE Grade Crossing,
Trux Street. (DOT#001-976A)

Mr. Andrews:

Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad (WE) is now authorized to proceed with field construction for the above referenced project. This authorization is contingent upon accepting the following:

- 1) WE will make any adjustments to the plans noted in the field report docketed April 4, 2017 (Attached).
- 2) WE will provide PUCO Staff with the final estimates and the material package itemization once bidding for the material package is complete.
- 3) WE will furnish e-mail, fax, or phone notification five (5) working days prior to the date work will start at the project site. Notification to be made to Jill Henry, PUCO, at E-MAIL jill.henry@puc.state.oh.us, FAX 614-995-5535, or PHONE 614-466-0435 and to Eric Neff, ORDC, at E-MAIL Eric.Neff@dot.ohio.gov, or PHONE 614-745-6760.
- 4) WE will arrange for utilities to be relocated and/or dropped (as soon as possible) at the project site through the applicable utility company.
- 5) WE will arrange for utilities to be located at the project site by the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) prior to any construction activities at the site. Utilities that are not participating members of the OUPS service must be contacted directly by WE.
- 6) WE's project foreman will notify the PUCO Railroad Inspector and ORDC's Eric Neff 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.
- 7) WE will furnish three (3) copies of each partial bill to the PUCO and ORDC.

- 8) WE 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.
- 9) WE will furnish as-built detailed circuit plans directly to the PUCO and ORDC.
- 10) WE is to schedule and complete the subject project by July 6, 2017. If any extraordinary circumstances unique to this project occur, please notify the Commission's rail staff immediately.

Thank you for you cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Jill Henry
Rail Specialist
PUCO Rail Division

Enclosure

cc: File

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
RAIL DIVISION**

Subject: Plans and estimates review for active warning devices at rail grade crossing Trux Street/SR 603 (DOT#001-976A), Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad (WE), Plymouth, Ohio, Medina County

DOT #: 001-976A

FINDINGS

On October 17, 2016, the plans and estimates for the above mentioned crossing were received from Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad. They were reviewed by Shawn Zurfley, PUCO/FRA Rail Inspector and Jill Henry, PUCO Rail Specialist and Joseph Reinhardt, ORDC Project Manager.

Trux Street/SR 603

Trux Street/SR 603. is a 2-lane roadway traveling Northwest/Southeast and intersecting a single track of WE traveling Northeast/Southwest. Existing warning devices consist advanced warning signs, pavement markings, flashers, bells, and crossbucks.

In reviewing the site plans & estimates, Staff requested the following additional information from WE and received the responses as noted below.

- 1) Can the equipment house be installed 25' from the nearest rail instead of 15' as indicated on the plans in the NE quadrant?
 - a. **Answer:** We will get as close as we can, property gets tight in this area on both sides of the track.
- 2) Will the private driveway that is encroaching on railroad property be permanently closed?
 - a. **Answer:** We prefer closure of the encroaching drive. We will be closing this off entirely since this is where the bungalow will be placed. We have sent the owner of the property 2 notification letters that this will be closed and received no response to date.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

We reviewed the plans and preliminary estimates for the proposed project. The plans appear to be fundamentally correct and need to be updated to reflect the installation changes of the equipment house in the NE quadrant. WE will need to provide Staff finalized copy of the project estimates and material package itemization once bidding for the material package is complete. Construction authorization should be granted for this project.

Jill Henry
PUCO Rail Specialist
Date: April 4, 2017

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

4/4/2017 9:15:36 AM

in

Case No(s). 16-1281-RR-STP

Summary: Memorandum In the Matter of Construction Authorization for the Installation of Active Warning Devices at the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company Grade Crossing Trux Street/SR 603 (DOT#001-976A), in Plymouth, Ohio. electronically filed by Mrs. Jill A Henry on behalf of PUCO/Rail Division