



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 5 • 9600 JACKSONTOWN RD. • JACKSONTOWN, OHIO 43030 • (740) 323-4400

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR • JERRY WRAY, DIRECTOR • SONJIA R. SIMPSON, DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR

2017 APR -5 AM 8:30

RAIL DIVISION

March 28, 2017

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Docketing Division  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Petitioning for Exemption of Zanesville & Western Scenic Railroad Crossing, Muskingum County,  
AARDOT No. 515009L

Dear PUCO Representative:

The Ohio Department of Transportation, District 5, is petitioning for a railroad crossing exemption under Ohio Revised Code 4511.63. This is for the subject railroad crossing on State Route 93 in Muskingum County, a two lane highway with a speed limit of 55 mph. We have received several complaints from the Crooksville Exempted Village School District regarding near miss accidents because their buses are required to stop at this crossing. ODOT District 5 feels that making this crossing exempt will increase safety for school buses by eliminating their need to stop resulting in less hazards and increasing safety for the traveling public.

The section of rail that crosses State Route 93 was abandoned by Ohio Southern Rail Road and is currently being operated by Zanesville & Western Scenic Railroad. I have spoken with, Zack Thomas, who represents the Zanesville & Western Scenic Railroad and he acknowledged that less than 5 trains cross our highway each year. In speaking with Mr. Thomas, he mentioned that he would support an exemption for this crossing. Mr. Thomas can be reached at (740)-281-7431.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 740-323-5122 or via email at [doug.morgan@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:doug.morgan@dot.ohio.gov).  
Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

Douglas N. Morgan, P.E.  
District 5 Railroad Coordinator

c:file

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**4/5/2017 10:25:09 AM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 17-0915-RR-RCP**

Summary: Application Ohio Department of Transportation Request for Exemption for Zanesville & Western Scenic Railroad Railroad Crossing DOT#515-009L in Muskingum County. electronically filed by Mrs. Jill A Henry on behalf of ODOT