

# Memo

To: Docketing Division

From: Jill Henry, Rail Specialist, Rail Division

Cc: PUCO Legal Department

Date: 4/11/18

Re: PUCO Case No. 17-2134-RR-STP- In the Matter of a Request for the Installation of Lights and Gates at the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad crossing on Riverland Avenue/TR 298 (DOT#473-133X) in Stark County, Bethlehem Township, Ohio.

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On October 3, 2017, Commission Staff (PUCO), Bethlehem Township, Stark County, and Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad (WE) entered into a stipulation agreement (attached) whereby upgraded warning devices would be installed at Riverland Avenue/TR 298 (DOT#473-133X).

On November 21, 2017, the Commission issued a Finding and Order approving the project, requiring plans and estimates by February 21, 2018 and ordering project completion by November 21, 2018.

On February 15, 2018, WE filed with the Rail Division plans and estimates for the projects.

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

M. Beth Trombold  
Thomas W. Johnson  
Lawrence K. Friedeman  
Daniel R. Conway

April 11, 2018

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

Re: WE Grade Crossing,  
Riverland Ave/TR 298 (DOT#473-133X)

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 11, 2018 (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@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:jill.henry@puco.ohio.gov), or PHONE 614-466-0435.
- 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 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.

- 8) WE will furnish three (3) copies of the final-inclusive bill to PUCO 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.
- 10) WE is to schedule and complete the subject project by November 21, 2018.  
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 Railroad Division

Enclosure

cc: File

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

**Date of Assignment:** February 15, 2018

**Subject:** Plans and estimates review for active warning devices at Riverland Road/TR 298 (473-133X), Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway, Stark County.

**DOT #: 473-133X**

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**FINDINGS**

On February 15, 2018, the plans and estimates for the above mentioned crossing were received from Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway WE. They were reviewed by Jill Henry, PUCO Rail Specialist, and Shawn Zurfle, FRA/PUCO Field Investigator.

Riverland Avenue is a rural roadway traveling North/South and intersecting a single track of WE traveling North/South in an S curve at the crossing. Existing warning devices include pavement markings, rumble strips, stop signs and crossbucks.

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

We reviewed the plans and estimates for the crossing.

Staff asked the following questions concerning the plans and estimates:

- 1) The WLE Direct Signal & MOW Labor estimate is \$7,500. Please explain what this is for/or covers.

Response: This will cover signal cost for maintainers, along with MOW labor for removing any gauge rods that are uninsulated in this circuit.

- 2) The SE quadrant where the bungalow will be installed has a 75' ROW. Can the bungalow be placed 25' from the tracks?

Response: Yes

- 3) Is there overlap with another crossing for this project? It was noticed that the plans indicate shunts are being used. Please clarify.

Response: We have been installing tunable narrow band shunts at pretty much all locations for all projects. We would like to continue doing so, but if this is an issue we can install dual hardwire shunts.

- 4) The CTC estimate has 20 Tons of stone in the field material listing and you have \$10,000 for Riverland Avenue. Is there duplication in the stone fill material?

Response: We typically try to account for additional stone in the event Crosier or CTC needs more fill on projects.

- 5) The estimate has \$5000 for utility fees. Could you please explain what this is for?

Response: We try to include extra just in case there is an issue with getting power to a specific location.

The plans and estimates appear to be fundamentally correct. Construction authorization is granted for this project with the following conditions:

- 1) The bungalow should be placed in the SE quadrant and needs to be placed further back to meet the 25' Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (OMUTCD) placement recommendation. **If this condition cannot be met onsite then contact should be made to the PUCO for clarification.**

Jill Henry  
PUCO Rail Specialist  
Date: April 11, 2018

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

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**in**

**Case No(s). 17-2134-RR-STP**

Summary: Notification In the Matter of a Request for the Installation of Lights and Gates at the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad crossing on Riverland Avenue/TR 298 (DOT#473-133X) in Stark County, Bethlehem Township, Ohio. electronically filed by Mrs. Jill A Henry on behalf of PUCO/Rail Division