

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF REQUESTS BY THE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION AND THE VILLAGE OF
MINSTER FOR EXEMPTIONS FROM
STOPPING FOR SCHOOL BUSES AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS VEHICLES FOR
CROSSINGS IN AUGLAIZE COUNTY,
OHIO.

CASE NO. 22-280-RR-RCP

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on September 7, 2022

{¶ 1} R.C. 4511.63 provides that, except where the Commission has granted an exemption, any bus, school vehicle, or vehicle transporting a material that is required to be placarded pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Parts 100-185 must stop before crossing at grade any railroad track. This section also provides that any local authority may file an application with the Commission requesting approval of an exempt crossing.

{¶ 2} On March 30, 2022, and August 9, 2022, Matt Parrill, the Capital Programs Administrator of District 7 of the Ohio Department of Transportation, and Donald Harrod, Village Administrator of the Village of Minster, respectively, filed letters requesting exemptions for school buses and motor vehicles carrying certain hazardous materials from stopping at five grade crossings, United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Nos. 476987A, 476988G, 476989N, 919854K, and 919855S in Auglaize County, owned by RJ Corman Railroad Group, LLC. Relative to DOT No. 476987A, Mr. Parrill explained that the crossing is used by approximately one train per day. Relative to the remaining four crossings, Mr. Harrod explained that the crossings are no longer used. As to each of the crossings, Messrs. Parrill and Harrod claimed that eliminating the need for school buses and hazmat vehicles from stopping at the crossings will result in an increase in safety for the traveling public.

{¶ 3} Accordingly, the attorney examiner finds that Staff should file a report of investigation regarding the requests by September 21, 2022.

{¶ 4} Further, the attorney examiner finds that, in order for the public to have an opportunity to comment on the exemption request, a local hearing should be scheduled. Accordingly, a public hearing on this matter should be held on September 28, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at St. Henry Consolidated Local Schools, 391 East Columbus Street, St. Henry, Ohio 45883.

{¶ 5} The Secretary of the Commission should cause publication of the following legal notice in a newspaper of general circulation in Auglaize County, Ohio, one time, not less than seven days prior to the scheduled hearing:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled a public hearing in Case No. 22-280-RR-RCP regarding a request for exemption for school buses and motor vehicles carrying certain hazardous materials from stopping at five grade crossings (DOT Nos. 476987A, 476988G, 476989N, 919854K, and 919855S) in Auglaize County.

The purpose of the hearing will be to take public comment regarding the exemption requests. The hearing will be held on September 28, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at St. Henry Consolidated Local Schools, 391 East Columbus Street, St. Henry, Ohio 45883. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793, viewing the Commission's web page at <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>, or contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826. The hearing impaired can reach the Commission by dialing 7-1-1 (Ohio Relay Service).

{¶ 6} Pursuant to R.C. 4511.63, the Commission shall authorize a limited period for the filing of comments by any interested person regarding the exemption requests.

Therefore, any interested person may file comments on the exemption requests by September 28, 2022.

{¶ 7} It is, therefore,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That Commission staff file a report of investigation as set forth in Paragraph 3. It is, further,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That a hearing be held in this case as set forth in Paragraph 4. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the Secretary of the Commission cause publication of the legal notice in accordance with Paragraph 5. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That comments on the exemption request be filed as set forth in Paragraph 6. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served by certified and regular mail on RJ Corman Railroad Group, LLC, by regular mail on the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Village of Minster, Minster Local Schools, the Auglaize County Board of Commissioners, and all other interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/Jesse M. Davis

By: Jesse M. Davis
Attorney Examiner

NJW/dmh

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

9/7/2022 4:08:14 PM

in

Case No(s). 22-0280-RR-RCP

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry that Commission staff file a report of investigation as set forth in Paragraph 3; that a a public hearing on this matter should be held on September 28, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at St. Henry Consolidated Local Schools as set forth in Paragraph 4; and that the Secretary of the Commission cause publication of the legal notice in accordance with Paragraph 5 electronically filed by Ms. Donielle M. Hunter on behalf of Jesse M. Davis, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio