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Illinois Commerce Commission
RAIL SAFETY SECTION

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

July 19, 2001

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company,
Petitioner,

v.

Tamalco Township, Bond County, Illinois; Pleasant Mound Township, Bond
County, Illinois; Bond County, Illinois; and, State of Illinois, Department of
Transportation,
Respondents.

Petition seeking a determination from the Illinois Commerce Commission
whether the warning devices at the public grade crossing located at the tracks
of The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") and TR
247 (Main Street) in Tamalco Township, Bond County, Illinois, Milepost
102.33, DOT No. 069316E should be upgraded to automatic flashing light
signals with gates and constant warning time circuitry; whether the public
grade crossing located at the intersection of the tracks of BNSF and Township
Road TR 238 in Tamalco Township, Bond County, Illinois, Milepost 102.21,
DOT No. 069318T should be closed; and, a connecting road constructed on
the east side of the tracks and right-of-way of BNSF between Township Road
TR 247 (Main Street) and TR 238, with any such cost be borne by the parties
in accordance with law and that a substantial portion of the cost to be borne by
the Grade Crossing Protection Fund.

T01-0028

And

Petition seeking a determination from the Illinois Commerce Commission
whether the warning devices at the public grade crossing located at the tracks
of BNSF and Township Road TR 199 in Tamalco Township, Bond County,
Milepost 98.65, DOT No. 069156T should be upgraded to automatic flashing
light signals and gates with constant warning time circuitry; the public grade
crossing located at the intersection of Township Road TR 232 in Tamalco
Township, Bond County, Illinois, Milepost 98.59, DOT No. 069160H should be
closed; a connecting road constructed on the east side of the tracks and right-
of-way of BNSF connecting Township Road TR 199. Township Road TR 326
(Second Street) and TR 232a; whether the warning devices at the grade
crossing located at the intersection of TR 326 (Second Street) and the tracks
of BNSF, Milepost 98.31 should be upgraded to automatic flashing light signals
and gates; the public at grade crossing at the intersection of Township Road
TR 232a and the tracks of BNSF, Milepost 98.23, DOT No. 0691586 should
be closed; and, a connecting road west of BNSF's track and right-of-way
extending High Street to the north to Township Road TR 232a, with any such
costs to be borne by the parties in accordance with law and that a substantial
portion of any such costs be borne by the Grade Crossing Protection Fund.

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

DOCKETED

NOTICE
T01-0028
July 19, 2001

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a letter of exception has been received regarding the above captioned matter. A copy of said letter is attached hereto.

ENTERED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Korte', written over a horizontal line.

Rick Korte, Chief Hearing Examiner
Review and Examination Program

RK:rsc
Railroad Staff: Mr. Humphries

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COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE & CONSERVATION
EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE
FRANK C. WATSON
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

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July 16, 2001

Mr. Rick Korte, Chief Hearing Officer
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Dear Chief Hearing Officer Korte:

I have received information from Bob Lane, Assistant Director, Illinois Commerce Commission today concerning the tiling of exceptions to the proposed order.

I very definitely take exception to the closing of the Sixth Avenue railroad crossing in Hookdale, Illinois, ICC Docket # T01-0028. Some of my reasoning has to do with traffic and safety. My other objection is that the people involved and being affected by this action were not notified of meetings where they could have voiced their opposition. There was a definite breakdown in communications which is no fault of those individuals now implicated in attempting to keep this crossing open.

At this point, a new Township Road Commissioner was elected and I feel he, too, is opposing the closing of Sixth Avenue Crossing.

I have been led to believe that you have indicated you had support for this project. I have asked for information you might have, such as letters, from local bodies of government to support this statement, but to date I have not received this particular type of data.

Hopefully, common sense will prevail in your decision and a positive determination will be forthcoming, allowing the Sixth Avenue railroad crossing to remain open.

Sincerely,

Frank Watson

FW/mt
cc-Bob Lane