

Docket Number: T14-0064
ROM Date: 03/23/2016
Deadline: N/A

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

FROM: Michael E. Stead, Rail Safety Program Administrator

DATE: March 8, 2016

SUBJECT: BNSF Railway Company, Will County, Grundy County, Western Township in Henry County, Peoria County and the State of Illinois, Department of Transportation.

Revised Stipulated Agreement regarding improving public safety at the following highway-rail grade crossings of BNSF Railway Company's tracks: Brandon Road/CH 42 near Joliet (AAR/DOT #004 382L, railroad milepost 40.01); Gorman Road/CH 29V near Coal City (AAR/DOT #004 412B, railroad milepost 61.9); TR 251 near Lynn Center (AAR/DOT #065 641M, railroad milepost 28.28); and, Kickapoo-Edwards Road/CH 40R near Edwards (AAR/DOT #098 428G, railroad milepost 39.15).

RECOMMENDATION: Enter Supplemental Order

On June 11, 2014, the Commission entered its original Order in the above captioned matter. The BNSF Railway Company was required to renew surfaces at the following highway-rail grade crossings: Brandon Road/CH 42 near Joliet, Gorman Road/CH 29V near Coal City, TR 251 near Lynn Center, and Kickapoo-Edwards Road/CH 40R near Edwards. The original Order contains a division of cost among the parties and all work was to be completed by March 11, 2015. On March 6, 2015, the railroad informed Commission Staff that it was working on project follow-ups. On February 24, 2016, the railroad filed a project status report advising that two of the crossings have been rebuilt and that an extension of time would be sought for the remaining two crossings.

On March 7, 2016, the BNSF filed its Petition for Supplemental Order, stating that it has renewed the crossing surfaces at Brandon Road/CH 42 and at TR 251. However, the crossing surfaces at Gorman Road/CH 29V and at Kickapoo-Edwards Road/CH 40R have not been renewed, primarily due to heavy capital project activity throughout the past year. The railroad has ordered materials for these two crossings and seeks an extension of time for completion of the improvements until June 30, 2016.

Commission Staff has reviewed the original Order and the Petition for Supplemental Order and is of the opinion that the BNSF's request for an extension of time to complete the project is fair and reasonable and should be granted. There are no other changes to the original Order and this Supplemental Order affirms the original Order.

I recommend entry of the attached Supplemental Order.

Attachment
DSD