



ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

April 29, 2003

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company,
Petitioner,

V.

Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois; and Department of
Transportation of the State of Illinois,
Respondents.

T03-0038

Petition for an order from the Illinois Commerce Commission authorizing
the permanent closure and removal of the at grade crossing located at
intersection of the tracks of The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe
Railway Company ("BNSF") and Township Road 50th Street in Hale
Township, Warren County, Illinois, Milepost 181.28 DOT No. 079 228W;
the permanent closure and removal of the at grade crossing located at the
intersection of BNSF's tracks and Hale Township Road, 180th Avenue,
Milepost 181.14, DOT No. 079 227P; the construction of a connecting
road located south of and parallel to BNSF's track which would serve to
connect Hale Township Road, 50th Street and Hale Township Road 180th
Avenue; and, the construction of a new at grade crossing carrying Hale
Township Road 50th Street over the trackage of BNSF, with the cost of
such project to be borne by the parties in accordance with law and that a
substantial portion of the cost be borne by the Grade Crossing Protection
Fund.

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Mr. Michael L. Sazdanoff
Kenneth J. Wysoglad & Associates
118 S. Clinton St., Ste. 700
Chicago, IL 60661

Dear Mr. Sazdanoff:

Receipt is acknowledged of the original and four (4) copies of the Petition filed April 28, 2003 in the above matter.

Processing and Information Section

kl
cc: Mr. James Easterly, IDOT
Mr. W. Douglas Werner, BNSF
Ms. Cheryl Townlian, BNSF
CT Corporation System, BNSF
Hale Township, Supervisor/Clerk
Highway Commissioner
Warren County Highway Engineer

COPY

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN and SANTA FE)
RAILWAY COMPANY,)

Petitioner,)

v.)

HALE TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, ILLINOIS;)
and DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF)
THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,)

Respondent.)

No. T03-0038

Petition for an order from the Illinois Commerce)
Commission authorizing the permanent closure)
and removal of the at grade crossing located at)
intersection of the tracks of The Burlington)
Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company)
("BNSF") and Township Road 50th Street in Hale)
Township, Warren County, Illinois, Milepost 181.28))
DOT No. 079 228W; the permanent closure and)
removal of the at grade crossing located at the)
intersection of BNSF's tracks and Hale Township)
Road, 180th Avenue, Milepost 181.14, DOT No. 079)
227P; the construction of a connecting road)
located south of and parallel to BNSF's track)
which would serve to connect Hale Township)
Road, 50th Street and Hale Township Road 180th)
Avenue; and, the construction of a new at grade)
crossing carrying Hale Township Road 50th Street)
over the trackage of BNSF, with the cost of such)
project to be borne by the parties in accordance)
with law and that a substantial portion of the cost)
be borne by the Grade Crossing Protection Fund.)

RECEIVED
APR 28 2003

Illinois Commerce Commission
RAIL SAFETY SECTION

PETITION

Now comes petitioner, The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF"), by its attorneys, Kenneth J. Wysoglad & Associates and for its petition to the Illinois Commerce Commission states as follows:

DOCKETED

1. BNSF is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Ft. Worth, Texas and is authorized to transact business in the State of Illinois and transacts business as a common carrier by railroad in interstate and intrastate commerce.
2. Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois is a governmental entity established under the laws of the State of Illinois.
3. BNSF operates certain trackage in a generally northwest to southeast direction through Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois.
4. Warren County, Illinois in which Hale Township is located, has a population of approximately 19,200 individuals.
5. Hale Township Road, 50th Street located in Hale Township, Illinois is under the jurisdiction of Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois. Hale Township Road 50th Street extends in a generally north to south direction through Hale Township and intersects with the tracks of BNSF creating a public at grade crossing on less than a 90^o angle at Milepost 181.28. DOT No. 079 228W. The aforesaid at grade crossing is currently equipped with two reflectorized crossbuck signs and carries an estimated average daily vehicular traffic of approximately 25 vehicles per day.
6. Hale Township Road 180th Avenue is a east/west roadway under the jurisdiction of Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois. Hale Township Road 180th Avenue intersects with the trackage of BNSF on less than a 90^o angle creating a public at grade crossing at milepost 181.14, DOT No. 079 227P. The aforesaid at grade crossing is equipped with two reflectorized crossbuck

signs and carries an estimated average daily vehicular traffic of approximately 50 vehicles.

7. BNSF suggests that the public safety, convenience and necessity does not require the retention of the public at grade crossings located at Hale Township Road 50th Avenue, Milepost 181.28. DOT No. 079 228W and Hale Township Road 180th Avenue, Milepost 181.14, DOT No. 079 227P. Petitioner herein suggests that public safety would be enhanced if the aforesaid public at grade crossings were permanently closed and barricaded. Petitioner further suggests that to minimize any inconvenience that may be caused to the motor vehicle traveling public by the permanent closure of the aforesaid public at grade crossings, that a connecting road be constructed between Hale Township Road 50th Street and Hale Township Road 180th Avenue at a location south of and parallel to BNSF's track and right of way. Moreover, BNSF suggests that a new public at grade crossing be established approximately 170 feet east of the existing Hale Township Road 50th Street at grade crossing, the new crossing to be located at or near BNSF Milepost 181.25. BNSF recommends that the newly established at grade crossing be equipped with a concrete crossing surface to be installed at an estimate cost of \$51,200 and further equipped with automatic flashing light signals and gates and constant warning time circuitry be installed at an estimated cost of \$132,495.
8. As to the proposed connecting road, BNSF has caused to be acquired all property necessary for the construction of the proposed roadway, with land

acquisition cost to be approximately \$35,000 and construction cost for the roadway currently estimated at \$79,800.

9. BNSF has conferred with Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois with respect to the above described project. It is petitioner's understanding that Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois concurs with the proposed improvements as set forth above.
10. The new proposed at grade crossing to be installed at or near Milepost 181.25 would be a needed thoroughfare in Hale Township, Warren County, Illinois with said roadway and crossing used by Statewide traffic.
11. The public safety, convenience and necessity requires that the Grade Crossing Protection Fund of the Motor Fuel Tax Law pay a substantial portion of the cost of any improvement that may be authorized by the Illinois Commerce Commission pursuant to this said petition. Petitioner would request that the Grade Crossing Protection Fund of the Motor Fuel Tax Law bear 85% of the project cost with petitioner bearing the remaining 15% of such cost.

Wherefore, petitioner prays that the Illinois Commerce Commission set the aforesaid matter for public hearing and enter an order authorizing the permanent closure of the public at grade crossings located at Hale Township Road 50th Street and the tracks of BNSF, Milepost 21.28, DOT No. 079 228W and Township Road 180th Avenue and the tracks of BNSF, Milepost 181.14, DOT No. 079227P; construction fo a connecting road between Hale Township Road 50th Street and Hale Township Road 180th Avenue to be located parallel to and south of BNSF's tracks, authorize installation of a new at grade

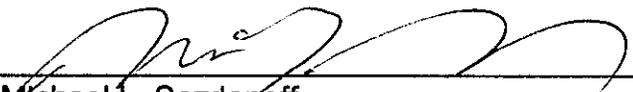
crossing with concrete crossing surface and automatic flashing light signals and gates with constant warning time circuitry; and, dividing the cost among the parties in accordance with law and requiring that a substantial portion of the cost be borne by the Grade Crossing Protection Fund of the Motor Fuel Tax Law.

THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN AND SANTA
FE RAILWAY COMPANY



Cheryl Townlian

KENNETH J. WYSOGLAD & ASSOCIATES



Michael L. Sazdanoff

Michael L. Sazdanoff
Kenneth J. Wysoglad & Associates
Attorneys for Petitioner
The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company
118 S. Clinton Street, Suite 700
Chicago, Illinois 60661
(312) 441-0333

STATE OF MISSOURI)
)
COUNTY OF GREENE) SS

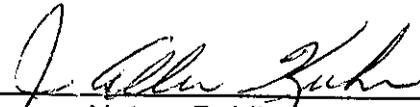
VERIFICATION

Cheryl Townlian, being duly sworn on oath, deposes and states that she is Manager, Public Projects for The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, petitioner herein; that she is duly authorized by said railroad company to sign, verify and file the foregoing petition and that the matters set forth in said petition are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

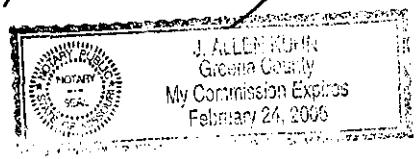


Cheryl Townlian

Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 23 day of
DECEMBER, 2003.



Notary Public



PROOF OF SERVICE

Michael L. Sazdanoff, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says that on the 24 day of APRIL, 2003, he caused to be served, a true and correct copy

of **PETITION** upon:

Mr. Henry Humphries
Railroad Staff
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Mr. James L. Easterly
Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways
2300 S. Dirksen Pkwy, Suite 300
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Mr. James I. Oaks
Highway Commissioner Hale Township
2240 Mam Trail
Monmouth, Illinois 61462

Mr. James Justus
County Engineer Warren County
833 S. Eighth Street
Monmouth, Illinois 61462

by depositing same in the U.S. Mail depository located at Adams and Clinton Streets, Chicago, Illinois in an envelope(s) with first-class postage, prepaid.

