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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Arizona Corporation Commission

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COMMISSIONERS

DOCKETED

MARC SPITZER, Chairman
WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
JEFF HATCH-MILLER
MIKE GLEASON
KRISTIN K. MAYES

AUG 10 2004

DOCKETED BY *nr*

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION TO UPGRADE AN
EXISTING CROSSING OF THE ARIZONA
EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY AT STATE
ROUTE 188, CLAYPOOL-JAKES CORNER
HIGHWAY, IN GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA,
AAR/DOT NO. 748-716X.

DOCKET NO. RR-02634A-04-0433

DECISION NO. 67169

OPINION AND ORDER

DATE OF HEARING: July 15, 2004
PLACE OF HEARING: Phoenix, Arizona
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Marc E. Stern
APPEARANCES: Mr. Timothy Sabo, Staff Attorney, Legal
Division, on behalf of the Utilities Division of
the Arizona Corporation Commission.

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 9, 2004, the Arizona Department of Transportation ("ADOT") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") a request for approval for the Arizona Eastern Railway Company ("Railroad") to upgrade an existing crossing of the Railroad's track at State Route 178, Claypool-Jakes Corner Highway, Gila County, Arizona, AAR/DOT No. 748-716X ("Application").

On June 22, 2004, by Procedural Order, the Application was set for hearing on July 15, 2004 and ADOT was ordered to provide interested parties with a copy of the application and the Procedural Order.

On July 8, 2004, ADOT filed certification that notice of the proceeding had been given in accordance with the Procedural Order.

On July 15, 2004, a full public hearing was held before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge of the Commission at its offices in Phoenix, Arizona. At the conclusion of the hearing, the matter was taken under advisement pending submission of a Recommended Opinion and Order to the

1 Commission.

2 * * * * *

3 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the
4 Commission finds, concludes, and orders that:

5 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

6 1. On June 9, 2004, ADOT filed an Application in which it requested an Opinion and
7 Order from the Commission to approve an upgrade of an existing crossing of the Railroad at State
8 Route 178, Claypool-Jakes Corner Highway, Gila County, Arizona, AAR/DOT No. 748-716X.

9 2. On July 8, 2004, the Railroad filed certification that it had provided notice to all
10 interested parties of the Application and hearing thereon as ordered in the Commission's Procedural
11 Order.

12 3. A hearing was held as scheduled on July 15, 2004.

13 4. The Application provides for ADOT to widen State Route 178 to four lanes and for
14 the Railroad to upgrade the crossing by replacing the existing flashing light signals and automatic
15 gates with new, larger automatic gates and flashing lights and by installing a new, wider concrete
16 track crossing surface.

17 5. Staff testified that the cost for the installation of the crossing upgrade as provided in
18 the Application is proper.

19 6. Staff has recommended that the Application be approved.

20 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

21 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the Railroad and over the subject matter of the
22 Application pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-336, 40-337 and
23 40-337.01.

24 2. Notice of the Application was provided in accordance with the law.

25 3. Installation of the crossing upgrade is necessary for the public's convenience and
26 safety.

27 4. The Application should be approved as recommended by Staff.

28 5. After the installation of the crossing, the Railroad should maintain the crossing in

1 accordance with A.A.C. R14-5-104.

2 **ORDER**

3 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Arizona Department of Transportation's Application
4 on behalf of the Arizona Eastern Railway Company is hereby approved.

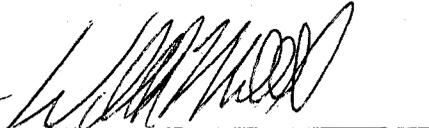
5 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Arizona Eastern Railway Company shall complete the
6 crossing upgrade as described in the Application within fifteen months from the effective date of this
7 Decision.

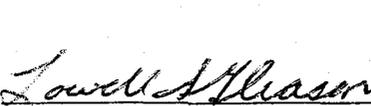
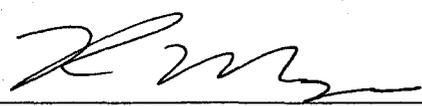
8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Arizona Eastern Railway Company shall notify the
9 Commission, in writing, within ten days of both the commencement and the completion of the
10 crossing upgrade, pursuant to A.A.C. R14-5-104.

11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon completion of the crossing upgrade, the Arizona
12 Eastern Railway Company shall maintain the crossing in compliance with A.A.C. R14-5-104.

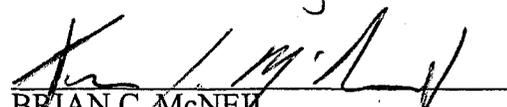
13 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

14 BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.

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17 CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER

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20 COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER

21 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive
22 Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have
23 hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the
24 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix,
25 this 10th day of August, 2004.

26 
27 BRIAN C. McNEIL
28 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

26 DISSENT _____

27 DISSENT _____

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SERVICE LIST FOR: ARIZONA EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY

DOCKET NO.: RR-02634A-04-0433

Elaine Mercado
Utility & Railroad Engineering Section
205 S. 17th Avenue, Mail Drop 618E
Phoenix, AZ 85007

David Gibson
ADOT Traffic Records Section
206 S. 17th Avenue, MD-064R
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Donald Tolle
Arizona Eastern Railway Company
P.O. Box Y
Claypool, AZ 85532-1008

Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel
Legal Division
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ernest Johnson, Director
Utilities Division
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007