

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Uniform Cover and Calendar Sheet

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| 1. REPORT DATE: February 8, 2000 | 2. <u>BUREAU AGENDA NO.</u> FEB-2000-TSR-0004* |
| 3. BUREAU: Transportation & Safety | |
| 4. SECTION(S): Rail Safety | 5. <u>PUBLIC MEETING DATE:</u> |
| 6. APPROVED BY: Director: Mahan 3-3846 Supervisor: Hart 7-9732 | February 10, 2000 DOCKETED FEB 17 2000 |
| 7. PERSONS IN CHARGE: Oliver 7-5189 | |
| 8. DOCKET NO.: A-00111016, C-00913256 | DOCUMENT FOLDED DOCUMENT FOLDED |

9. (a) **CAPTION (abbreviate if more than 4 lines)**
 (b) **Short summary of history & facts, documents & briefs**
 (c) **Recommendation**
- (a) Application of Consolidated Rail Corporation for the abolition of thirty-one crossings of the Enola Branch, Harrisburg Division, Lancaster County.
- (b) By letter received February 3, 2000, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation informed the Commission that due to the further deterioration of structural members it has closed the bridge carrying Fairview Road (S. R. 3016, AAR 518 203 P), to all vehicular traffic.
- (c) The Bureau of Transportation and Safety recommends that the Commission affirm the action of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to close the bridge involved herein to all vehicular traffic.

Order Doc. No. 175577

Calendar Doc. No. 175570

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 10. MOTION BY: Commissioner Chm. Quain | Commissioner Brownell - Yes |
| SECONDED: Commissioner Bloom | Commissioner Wilson - Yes |
| | Commissioner Fitzpatrick - Yes |

CONTENT OF MOTION: Staff recommendation adopted.

SRB



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE

FEBRUARY 16, 2000

A-00111016
C-00913256

DOCUMENT
FOLDER

TO ALL PARTIES

Application of Consolidated Rail Corporation of the abolition of
thirty-one crossings of the Enola Branch, Harrisburg Division, Lancaster County

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to advise you that the Commission in Public Meeting on February 10, 2000 has
adopted an Order in the above-entitled proceeding.

An Order has been enclosed for your records.

Very truly yours,

DOCKETED
FEB 28 2000

James J. McNulty
Secretary

Enclosure
Certified Mail
FG

See Attached Listing

SRB

PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Public meeting held February 10, 2000

Commissioners Present:

John M. Quain, Chairman
Robert K. Bloom, Vice-Chairman
Nora Mead Brownell
Aaron Wilson, Jr.
Terrance J. Fitzpatrick

Application of Consolidated Rail Corporation for
the abolition of thirty-one crossings of the Enola
Branch, Harrisburg Division, Lancaster County.

A-00111016
C-00913256

DOCUMENT
FOLDER
BY THE COMMISSION:

ORDER

DOCKETED
FEB 28 2000

By letter received February 3, 2000, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Department) informed the Commission that it conducted a bridge inspection of the structure that carries Fairview Road (S.R. 3016, AAR 518 203 P, Crossing No. 17) above the right-of-way of Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail) in Providence Township, Lancaster County.

On February 3, 2000, a representative of Norfolk Southern Railway Company (N.S.) informed the Commission that as part of N. S. acquisition of Conrail it has become the current operator of the Enola Branch. Accordingly it will be necessary to make N.S. a party to these proceedings.

The inspection was held on January 10, 2000, and revealed that approximately 50% of the floor systems stringers have total section loss in the portion of the stringer web that is below the top flang. The wooden decking is also showing signs of advanced deterioration. The two structural item combined has rendered a normal structural analysis impractical.

By order adopted March 4, 1999, the Commission adopted an order that reduced the allowable load limit permitted over the bridge to 3-tons. As a result of this current inspection the Department closed the bridge to all vehicular traffic on January 28, 2000.

In accordance with the Commission's order adopted October 9, 1997 (entered October 9, 1997), Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Department) was directed to remove the bridge and reconstruct the roadway on earth embankment within two years from the entry dated of the order. The Department was also assigned maintenance responsibility for the bridge superstructure, substructure and approach roadways until its removal.

By petition received January 19, 2000, the Department stated that it has not performed the work set forth in the October 9, 1997, order due to the pendency of the appeal process initiated by Intervenor, Friends of Atglen – Susquehanna Trail, Inc. (FAST). During the pendency of the appeal, FAST attempted to obtain a supersedes of the Commission's Opinion and Order entered October 9, 1997, before the Commission, the Commonwealth Court and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The issue of the supersedes was finally determined by Order of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court dated June 28, 1999, at Docket No. 782 M.D. Allocatur Docket 1998. The Department is now requesting the Commission grant an extension of time to December 31, 2001, to comply with paragraph nos. 99 and 100 of the Commission order adopted October 9, 1997, that directed removal of the bridge involved herein.

The results of the recent inspection show that the bridge structural components are deteriorated. The Department has concluded that due to this deterioration the bridge superstructure no longer has the capacity to carry vehicular loads and closed it to their use. Accordingly, we find that the Departments action to close the bridge due to the structural conditions found is proper and in the interest of safety to the public and should be affirmed; THEREFORE,

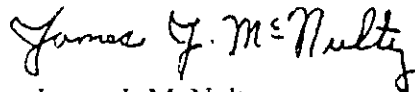
IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the action taken by Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to close the bridge carrying Fairview Road (AAR 518 203 P) over and above the right-of-way of Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation in Providence Township, Lancaster County, be and is hereby affirmed.
2. That Norfolk Southern Railway Company be and is hereby added as a party to this proceeding.
3. That Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, at its initial cost and expense, immediately furnish all material and perform all work necessary to erect and maintain substantial barricades at each end of the subject bridge to effectively close the bridge to use by all vehicular traffic.

4. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, at its initial cost and expense, immediately furnish all material and perform all work necessary to establish and maintain any detours or traffic controls that may be required to accommodate highway traffic.

5. That in all respects not inconsistent herewith all previous Commission orders in this proceeding remain in full force and effect.

BY THE COMMISSION,



James J. McNulty
Secretary

(SEAL).

ORDER ADOPTED: February 10, 2000

ORDER ENTERED: **FEB 16 2000**