



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE

January 30, 2023

A-2022-3036330

Via Eservice and Email Only
TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD

Application of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for approval of the alteration of the public crossing (DOT 264 143 C) by raising the height of the aerial wires connecting to a utility pole where Rupert Drive (State Route 0042) crosses, at grade, a track of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, operated thereon by the North Shore Railroad Company, located in Montour Township in Columbia County.

To Whom It May Concern:

By application filed with the Commission on October 24, 2022, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL) seeks Commission approval to alter the public crossing (DOT 264 143 C) by raising the height of the existing aerial wires connecting to the utility pole on the northwest side of the crossing where Rupert Drive (State Route 0042) crosses, at grade, a track of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, operated thereon by the North Shore Railroad Company, located in Montour Township in Columbia County.

PPL will raise the height of the existing aerial wires connecting to the utility pole on the northwest side of the crossing. The installation will provide a minimum vertical clearance of twenty-two feet ten-inches (22'-10") above the top of rail.

The Commission hereby establishes its jurisdictional limits at the subject crossing as the area within the confines of the railroad right-of-way and the highway right-of-way.

In its application, PPL, states that the proposed installation is necessary to provide adequate, efficient, and reasonable communication and power to its customers. PPL will be directed to perform the necessary installation, provide for maintenance and protection of highway and pedestrian traffic during installation and accept future maintenance responsibility for its facilities, at its sole cost and expense. The cost of the project is anticipated to be approximately \$5,000.

All work is to be performed in accordance with the plans entitled: "EXHIBIT A," consisting of one (1) sheet submitted to the Commission with the application.

PPL has served a copy of the application and plans on Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Verizon, Service Electric, North Shore Railroad Company, Montour Township and Columbia County. All parties in interest were queried by letter sent by electronic mail on October 31, 2022, as to any objection to the subject application and plans. None of the parties have responded with any objection to the subject application or plans.

The Commission has exclusive jurisdiction in crossing alterations and is the final arbiter of any fees associated with a crossing application. Any conditions, including fees associated with a crossing application, must be approved by the Commission.

Upon full consideration of the matters involved, we find that a hearing is not necessary and that a Secretarial Letter may be issued approving the application.

The Commission issues this Secretarial Letter in accordance with Section 2702 of the Public Utility Code and finds that the alteration of the crossing is necessary and proper for the service, accommodation, convenience or safety of the public.

The application of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation is approved as herein directed:

1. The caption of the subject proceeding is hereby revised as shown herein.
2. The crossing where Rupert Drive (State Route 0042) crosses, at grade, a track of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, operated thereon by the North Shore Railroad Company, located in Montour Township in Columbia County, be altered generally in accordance with the installation plan entitled: "EXHIBIT A," consisting of one (1) sheet provided to the Commission October 24, 2022; which plan is made part hereof and is hereby approved except insofar as it may relate to the division of work, deletion of work, or the allocation of costs and expenses incident to the installation of the project.
3. PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to alter the crossing by raising the height of the existing aerial wires connecting to the utility pole on the northwest side of the subject crossing, all in accordance with the approved plan and this Secretarial Letter.
4. PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to establish and maintain any detours or traffic controls that may be required to properly and safely accommodate highway and pedestrian traffic during the time the crossing is being altered.
5. Any relocation of, changes in and/or removal of any adjacent structures, equipment or other facilities of any non-carrier public utility, other than PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, which may be required as incidental to the alteration of the crossing, be made by said public utility at its initial cost, and in such a manner as will not interfere with the alteration of the crossing; and such relocated or altered facilities thereafter be maintained by said public utility, at its sole cost and expense.

6. North Shore Railroad Company, at the sole cost and expense of PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, furnish all material and perform all work relating to its facilities which may be required as incidental to the performance of the proposed work and furnish any watchmen, flagmen, inspectors and/or engineering services that may be deemed necessary to protect the railroad's operations or facilities during the time the facilities are being installed.

7. PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary to complete the remainder of the project, and any other ancillary features of the project, generally in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

8. The alteration of the crossing be completed on or before January 31, 2024, and that on or before said date PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, report in writing the date of actual completion of the work to this Commission and certify to the parties of record and this Commission that the work has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

9. PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, at its sole cost and expense, pay all compensation for damages, if any, due to owners of property taken, injured or destroyed by reason of the alteration of the crossing in accordance with this Secretarial Letter.

10. All parties involved herein cooperate fully with each other so that during the time the work is being performed, vehicular, pedestrian and railroad traffic will not be endangered or unnecessarily inconvenienced, and so that the requirements of each of the parties will be provided for and accommodated insofar as possible.

11. PPL Electric Utilities Corporation cooperate with the non-carrier utilities involved, so that during the alteration of the involved crossing, the facilities of the non-carrier utilities will not be endangered or unnecessarily interrupted.

12. PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, at least seven (7) days prior to the start of work, notify all parties in interest of the actual date on which work will begin.

13. Upon completion of the alteration of the crossing, PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary thereafter to maintain their cable and innerduct and any ancillary facilities installed in accordance with the approved plans and this Secretarial Letter.

14. Upon completion of the alteration of the crossing, North Shore Railroad Company, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and perform all work necessary thereafter to maintain its railroad facilities at the crossing, including the automatically operated flashing-light warning signals and all appurtenant equipment, and to maintain at all times in a smooth and satisfactory condition the full depth high-type concrete crossing surface installed at the crossing, all in accordance with Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter, and provide the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation at least ten (10) business days advance notice when performing any work as directed by this paragraph.

15. Upon completion of the alteration of the crossing, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, at its sole cost and expense, furnish all material and do all work necessary thereafter to maintain the highway approaches to the subject crossing up to the full depth high-type concrete crossing surface and, in addition, maintain the grade crossing advance warning signs, stop lines and pavement markings on the approaches thereto, all in accordance with Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter, and provide North Shore Railroad Company, at least ten (10) business days advance notice when performing any work as directed by this paragraph.

16. Upon completion of the work herein directed, and upon written request from any party of record, this proceeding be scheduled for a hearing at a time and place to be determined by the Commission, for the purpose of taking testimony upon the final allocation of any remaining costs incurred by the non-carrier utility companies and other matters relevant to this proceeding.

The Parties are reminded that failure to comply with this or any Order or Secretarial Letter in this proceeding may result in an enforcement action seeking civil penalties and/or other sanctions pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 3301.

The Commission has waived certain regulatory service provisions as directed by the Commission's Order at M-2021-3028321. Currently, while the Commission's physical facilities are open for business, some of the operational restraints occasioned by the pandemic remain. It is evident that the pandemic and its changing nature require certain procedural flexibility for the public, the regulated community, and the Commission. Toward this end, the Commission will continue to permit electronic service by the Commission on all parties, regardless of whether a particular party has agreed to electronic service. An exception to this general waiver is where the Public Utility Code requires service by specified means, e.g., Section 702. Additionally, service on Commission staff in proceedings pending before it, whether staff is a party or otherwise, shall be exclusively electronic unless the parties agree otherwise. Filings must be submitted by e-filing with the Secretary of the Commission by opening an e-filing account through the Commission's website and accepting eservice at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/filing-resources/efiling/>. If your filing contains confidential material, you are required to file by overnight delivery to ensure the timely filing of your submission.

If you are dissatisfied with the resolution of this matter, you may, as set forth in 52 Pa. Code §§ 1.31 and 5.44, file a Petition for Reconsideration from Staff Action (Petition) with the Commission within twenty (20) days of the date of this letter. The Petition shall be submitted by e-filing said petition within twenty (20) days, or if no timely request is made, the action will be deemed to be a final action of the Commission.

The Petition MUST include: (1) a written statement (divided into numbered paragraphs) outlining the reasons for the request; (2) the case docket number (it is provided for you at the top right hand corner of this letter); (3) the party on whose behalf the petition is made; (4) a Certificate of Service on the other parties of record; and (5) a Verification with original signature in accordance with 52 Pa. Code § 1.36.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary