



April 2, 2025

A-2021-3024998

**TO PARTIES OF RECORD**

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to alter the public at-grade crossing (DOT 506 378 J) by the installation of new active traffic control devices on Struble Road (T-380) and upgrading the highway traffic signals at the intersection of Struble Road and College Avenue (State Route 0026) with railroad preemption where Struble Road, crosses a track of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, operated thereon by Nittany and Bald Eagle Railroad, in College Township, Centre County all in accordance with the Federal Grade Crossing Program and the allocation of costs incident thereof.

To Whom It Concern:

This matter is before the Commission by reason of the submission of situation and circuitry plans submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Department) on behalf of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority & Nittany and Bald Eagle Railroad, the submission of traffic signal plans by the Department, and the filing of a Letter-Petition by the Department, requesting modification of our Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021.

In accordance with numbered Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Commission's Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021, in the above-captioned proceeding, the Department on behalf of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority & Nittany and Bald Eagle Railroad submitted situation and circuitry plans for the Commission's approval on May 21, 2024, entitled "STRUBLE ROAD DOT #506 378J – M.P. 0041.52 LEMONT, CENTRE COUNTY, PA", consisting of six (6) sheets.

In accordance with numbered Paragraph 5 of the Commission's Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021, in the above-captioned proceeding, the Department submitted traffic signal plans for the Commission's approval on May 21, 2024 entitled, "TRAFFIC SIGNAL PLAN", consisting of four (4) sheets.

The Letter-Petition of the Department, filed on February 13, 2025, requested two (2) changes be made to our Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021. The first request is to remove reference to the gate ready active traffic control system from Numbered Paragraph 6 and replace with "installing new active traffic control systems on each approach to the crossing consisting of post-mounted flashing light warning signals with bell and gate on the south-bound approach and a cantilevered flashing light warning signal with bell and gate on the north-bound approach."

The second request is to remove the reference to installing blank-out no turn on red signs on both approaches to College Avenue from Numbered Paragraph 7 and replace with “install a blank-out sign on the east-bound approach of College Avenue”.

In addition, the Commission will update the language of Numbered Paragraph 19 accordingly to direct SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority to maintain the gates as part of its railroad facilities at the crossing.

A certificate of service was provided with the Department’s Letter-Petition averring a copy was served to all parties of record. No party of record has advised the Commission that it objects to the Department’s request to modify our Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021.

We have carefully reviewed the Department’s Letter-Petition and will grant its request to alter our Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021, by modifying Numbered Paragraphs 6 and 7, and consequently modifying Numbered Paragraph 19.

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 Secretarial Letter dated June 23, 2021, is amended as herein directed:

1. The situation and circuitry plans submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation on behalf of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority & Nittany and Bald Eagle Railroad on May 21, 2024, entitled “STRUBLE ROAD DOT #506 378J – M.P. 0041.52 LEMONT, CENTRE COUNTY, PA”, consisting of six (6) sheets, are hereby approved.

2. The traffic signal plans submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation on May 21, 2024, entitled, “TRAFFIC SIGNAL PLAN”, consisting of four (4) sheets, are hereby approved.

3. Paragraph 6 of our Secretarial Letter issued June 23, 2021, which reads as follows, to wit:

“6. SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, at the sole cost and expense of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, furnish all material and do all work necessary to alter the subject crossing by (1) installing new gate ready active traffic control systems on each approach to the crossing consisting of post-mounted flashing light warning signals with bell on the south-bound approach and a cantilevered flashing light warning signal with bell on the north-bound approach; (2) providing railroad preemption and an interconnect to a junction box; all in accordance with the approved plans, Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter.”

be and is hereby modified to read:

6. SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, at the sole cost and expense of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, furnish all material and do all work necessary to alter the subject crossing by (1) installing new active traffic control systems on each approach to the crossing consisting of post-mounted flashing light warning signals with bell and gate on the south-bound approach and a cantilevered flashing light warning signal with bell and gate on the north-bound approach and; (2) providing railroad preemption and an interconnect to a junction box; all in accordance with the approved plans, Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter.

4. Paragraph 7 of our Secretarial Letter issued June 23, 2021, which reads as follows, to wit:

“7. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, at its sole costs and expense, will (1) upgrade the highway traffic signals at the intersection of College Avenue (SR 0026) and Struble Road with railroad preemption; (2) install a cable from the junction box to the traffic signal control box; (3) install blank-out no turn signs on both approaches of College Avenue (SR 0026) to the intersection with Struble Road, all in accordance with the approved plans, Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter.”

be and is hereby modified to read:

7. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, at its sole costs and expense, will (1) upgrade the highway traffic signals at the intersection of College Avenue (SR 0026) and Struble Road with railroad preemption; (2) install a cable from the junction box to the traffic signal control box; (3) install a blank-out no turn sign on the east-bound approach of College Avenue (SR 0026) to the intersection with Struble Road, all in accordance with the approved plans, Part 8 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and this Secretarial Letter.

5. Paragraph 19 of our Secretarial Letter issued June 23, 2021, which reads as follows, to wit:

“19. Upon completion of construction of the project, SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, 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 railroad crossing surfaces located between the rails and for a distance of twenty-four (24) inches beyond the rails; and provide 10-days of advance notice to College Township prior to doing any work at the crossing, all in accordance with this Secretarial Letter.”

be and is hereby modified to read:

19. Upon completion of construction of the project, SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, 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, gates, bells and all appurtenant equipment, and to maintain at all times in a smooth and satisfactory condition the railroad crossing surfaces located between the rails and for a distance of twenty-four (24) inches beyond the rails; and provide 10-days of advance notice to College Township prior to doing any work at the crossing, all in accordance with this Secretarial Letter.

6. In all respects not inconsistent herewith, our Secretarial Letter issued June 23, 2021, remain in full force and effect.

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.

All formal documents must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission. Documents must be eFiled, mailed or hand delivered. All filings should be addressed to the Secretary, PA Public Utility Commission, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120. The Commission will not accept documents delivered by fax or by e-mail. Parties are encouraged to file formal documents by eFiling with the Secretary of the Commission by opening an eFiling account through the Commission's website (the account is free of charge) 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. There are certain filings that cannot be eFiled, such as filings containing confidential or proprietary material. These must be submitted to the Secretary by overnight delivery, priority or certified mail to allow tracking of your filing.

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 eFiled with the Secretary of the Commission or sent to: Secretary, PA Public Utility Commission, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120, and must be filed 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Rosemary Chiavetta  
Secretary