



May 07, 2025

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to modify the public at grade crossing by adding traffic signal pre-emption timing at the intersections adjacent to the crossing where State Route 0309 crosses the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway, DOT Number 591 374 K in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County and the allocation of costs incident thereto.

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing, please find the Application of the Department of Transportation.

A copy of this Application and Exhibits has been served upon the parties in the Certificate of Service to the Application.

Sincerely,

Rodney O. Rehnert

Rodney O. Rehnert
District Grade Crossing Administrator
Engineering District 5-0
Department of Transportation

Attachments

cc: Parties of Record
M. J. Chappell, P.E., Chief, Right-of-Way, Utilities and Grade Crossing Division
K. L. Cummings, Senior Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel
W. M. Sinick, P.E., Supervisor, Rail Safety Engineering Section, PUC

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to modify the public at grade crossing by adding traffic signal pre-emption timing at the intersections adjacent to the crossing where State Route 0309 crosses the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway, DOT Number 591 374 K in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County and the allocation of costs incident thereto.

Application
Docket No. _____

Electronically Filed

APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Applicant, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, files this Application pursuant to the provisions of 66 Pa.C.S § 2702 and 52 Pa. Code § 5.13 for the modification of the public at grade crossing where State Route 0309 crosses the tracks of railroad at DOT Number 591 374 K in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County as described below:

1. The name and address of Applicant are Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, Scott G. Vottero, P.E., Assistant District Executive, Engineering District 5-0, 1002 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

2. The name and address of the attorney for the Applicant is Caroline Robelen, Assistant Counsel, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, Office of Chief Counsel, PO Box 8212, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8212.

3. The Applicant is an agency of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organized and existing under the Administrative Code of 1929, 71 P.S. § 511, et seq. and generally 36 P.S. § 670 - 401 et seq.

4. The names and addresses of the persons, parties and entities concerned in, or affected by the proposed construction, to the best of the Applicant's knowledge, are shown in the certificate of service. In addition to those served, the Applicant requests that the following also receive service of all documents in this matter:

Mark Chappell P.E., Chief
Right of Way, Utilities & Grade Crossing
Division
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
PO Box 3362
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3362
marchappel@pa.gov

Karen Cummings
Senior Counsel
Office of Chief Counsel
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
PO Box 8212
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8212
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5. The Applicant is seeking approval to install pre-emption of the traffic signals at the Walbert Ave. (State Route 1006) and Chapmans Road (State Route 4001) intersections with State Route 0309. The at-grade crossing is located between Walbert Ave. and Chapmans Road on State Route 0309 segment 0270 offset 0439. A Location Map is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A".

6. The Applicant is aware of prior Public Utility Commission orders for this crossing/these crossings at Docket Number(s): *A-00123150*.

7. The average daily traffic for State Route 0309 at this crossing is 9,170 vehicles with 6% trucks.

8. The estimated total cost for the project subject to the application and described above is \$460,000.00. The Applicant anticipates that the funding for the project will be 80% federal funds and 20% state funds.

9. This project is necessary and proper for the safety and convenience of the public.

10. A conference of all parties of interest should be held to discuss the proposed project.

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Public Utility Commission approve this Application.

Respectfully Submitted:



Scott G. Vottero, P.E.

Assistant District Executive

Engineering District 5-0

Department of Transportation

10032 Hamilton Street

Allentown, PA 18101

Phone (610) 871-4550

Fax (610) 871-4124

Email address svottreo@pa.gov

Dated: 05/07/2025

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to modify the public at grade crossing by adding traffic signal pre-emption timing at the intersections adjacent to the crossing where State Route 0309 crosses the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway, DOT Number 591 374 K in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County and the allocation of costs incident thereto.

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VERIFICATION

I, Rodney O. Rehnert, District Grade Crossing Administrator, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: 05/07/2025

Rodney O. Rehnert
Rodney O. Rehnert
District Grade Crossing Administrator
District 5-0

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the participants listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54, by:

Electronic Mail:

D. Shawn Starling
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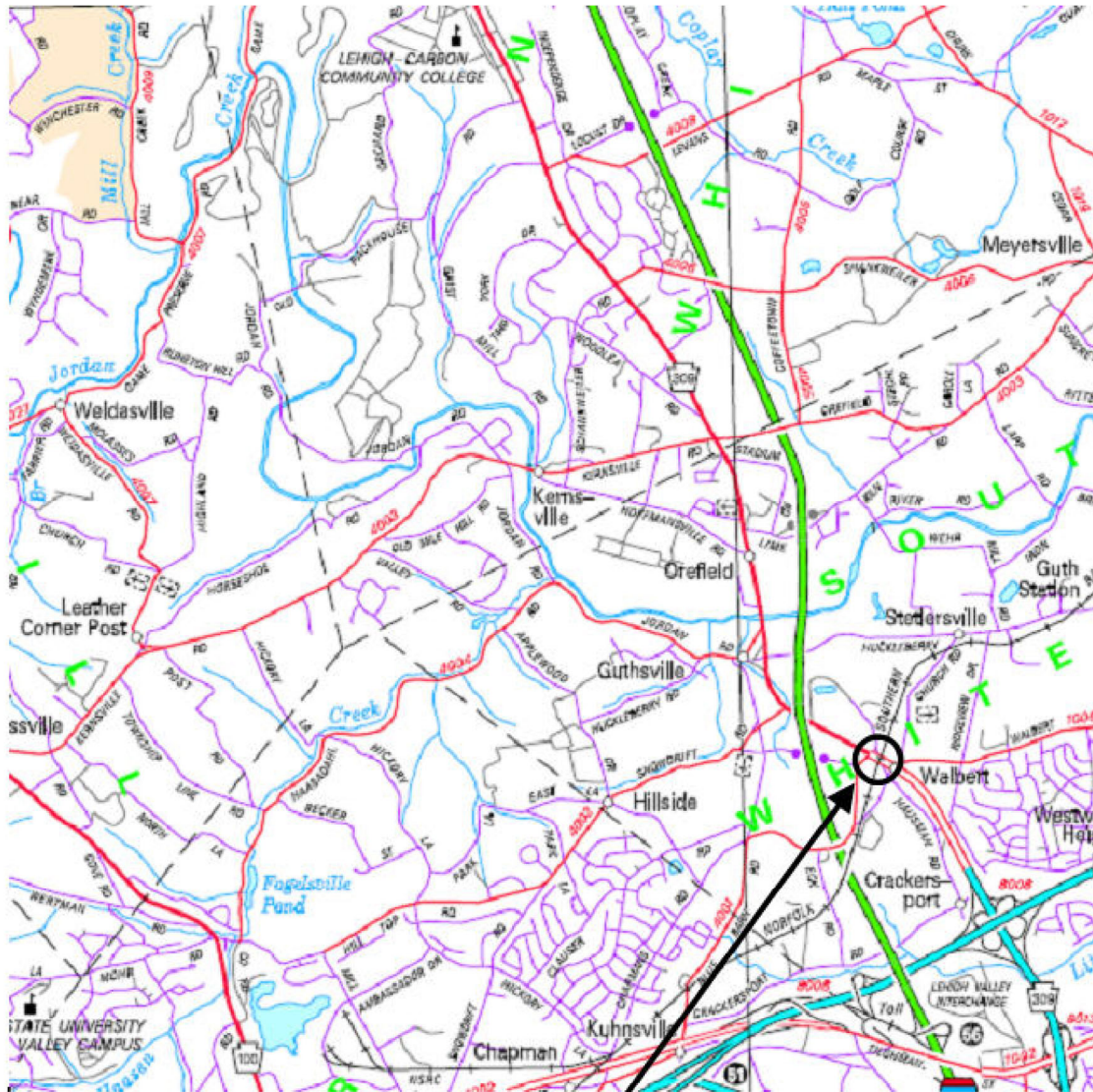
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Dated this 7th Day of May, 2025

Rodney O. Rehnert
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Allentown, PA 18101
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location map
AAR#: 591374K
Lehigh Co.
South Whitehall twp.
SR 309