



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

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE

August 4, 2025

A-2025-3056642

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD

Bridge structure (BRKEY 3298) and roadway closure at the public crossing (DOT 869 358 A) where Clinton Road (T-881) crosses, above grade, a single track of Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Incorporated, located in South Buffalo Township, Armstrong County.

To Whom It May Concern:

At a location in South Buffalo Township, Armstrong County, Clinton Road (T-881) crosses, above grade, a single track of Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad Incorporated (B&P), at public crossing (DOT 869 358 A).

By email received by a Commission staff engineer on July 28, 2025, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Department) informed the Commission of a critical safety issue and the actions taken by South Buffalo Township to close the Clinton Road (T-881) bridge to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

The subject bridge (NBI Structure Number/Bridge Key 3298) was determined to be in critical structural condition following a recent in-depth safety inspection which noted out-of-tolerance deficiencies resulting in the issuance of a Critical Priority (Priority 0) Maintenance Notification on July 22, 2025. The deficiencies were related to severe timber deterioration of Fascia Beam 10 at Pier 1 in Span 2. In the interest of public safety, the bridge was closed following the inspection.

The Department indicated that B&P has a plan of action for the repair of the structure but is unable to perform the associated work in the required period of time necessary to avoid the structure being closed. The structure will remain temporarily closed until such a time when adequate repairs can be made or the structure is replaced.

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 inclusive of the entire footprint of the bridge structure, bridge appurtenances, and bridge embankments.

Upon full consideration of the matters involved, we find that a hearing is not necessary and that a Secretarial Letter may be issued affirming the closure of the subject bridge.

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.

Upon review of the circumstances regarding the condition of the crossing and in the interest of safety to the public, we will affirm the closing of the subject bridge and direct the parties to perform the following work accordingly; THEREFORE:

1. The action taken by South Buffalo Township to close the Clinton Road (T-881) bridge (BRKEY 3298) above grade a single track of Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Incorporated at the public crossing (DOT 869 358 A) to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic be and is hereby affirmed.

2. South Buffalo Township, at its initial 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 bridge is closed.

3. South Buffalo Township, at its initial cost and expense, maintain any barricades, fencing and signage installed to prevent vehicular and pedestrian access to the subject public crossing until such time that the bridge structure can be repaired or replaced, all in accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Publication 213, Temporary Traffic Control Guidelines and this Secretarial Letter.

4. Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Incorporated, at its sole cost and expense, prepare and submit complete detailed structural repair plans and/or details to address the Critical Priority (Priority 0) Maintenance items at the subject public crossing to all parties for review and to the Commission for approval and/or affirmation.

5. South Buffalo Township, notify local emergency management services and the local school district of the Clinton Road (T-881) bridge closure at public crossing (DOT 869 358 A).

6. All parties involved herein cooperate fully with each other so that during the time the subject bridge structure is closed, 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.

7. Upon completion of the work herein ordered, a formal hearing be held, if requested, to elicit testimony from all affected parties relative to the costs incurred by the parties in performing work in accordance with this letter or other matters relevant to this proceeding.

8. In all respects not inconsistent herewith, our Secretarial Letters and Orders docketed at C-20030388 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 cursive script that reads "Matthew L. Homsher".

Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary