

Application to

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

The County of Las Animas, State of Colorado, (County), in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Transportation, (CDOT), hereby submits this application to the Public Utilities Commission, (PUC), for an order authorizing the installation of new flashing light signals, gates, bells, constant warning circuitry, and new cabin and concrete crossing pads on County Road 75.1 at the tracks of the BNSF Railway Company, (BNSF), located at DOT #003-324M, BNSF milepost 632.75, north east of the town of Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado.

The County presents the following information in support of this application:

1. Applicant:  
Board of County Commissioner of Las Animas County, Colorado  
on behalf of the Las Animas County Road and Bridge Department  
200 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street Room 201  
Trinidad, CO. 81082
2. This project is identified as CDOT project number STFY R200-207, 20127 and is a Section 130 Program.
3. The following exhibits are attached hereto and made a part hereof:  
Exhibit A- Location Map  
Exhibit B- Front Sheet & BNSF cost estimate –Signals  
Exhibit B-1- BNSF cost estimate Surface
4. The BNSF total estimate to upgrade the crossing is \$271,709. See Exhibit B & B-1.
5. The proposed crossing warning device improvements will consist of installing new flashing lights signals, gates, bells, constant warning circuitry, and new cabin and concrete crossing pads. The design is and installation will be done in accordance to the latest industry standards.
6. The average daily vehicular traffic count (ADT) at the crossing is 178 for 2014 and is anticipated to be 289 in the future. There are approximately 5 train movements a day at this crossing including Amtrak.
7. The BNSF will upgrade the existing crossing warning equipment and related circuitry. The estimated cost for the improvements is \$271,709. Funding for this railroad crossing improvement will be provided by use of Categorical Section 130 Funds, administered by CDOT.
8. County will maintain, at its expense, roadway approaches to the crossing. The BNSF will maintain at its expense the track, appurtenances, and Warning devices.
9. County will be responsible for obtaining clearance of approval from utility Companies which may be involved in the project, in writing or formal agreement, if utility adjustments are required.
10. No additional right-of way is anticipated for this crossing warning improvement. Owners of property adjacent to the improvement are: Model Land & Irrig Co., 13747 Hwy 350, Trinidad CO.

- 81082; Ethel & Frank Jr. Tortorelli, 17501 County Road 75.1, Trinidad CO. 81082; and Jim and/or Brandon Tortorelli, 38201 County Road 32, Trinidad CO. 81082
11. County's representative is Phil Dorenkamp, 2000 North Linden Ave, Trinidad CO. 81082, 719-846-2931. CDOT's Project Manager is Matthew Jagow, P.E., 905 Erie Avenue, Pueblo, CO., 81002, phone 719-546-5751.
  12. Fatalities have occurred at this crossing. Enhanced warning devices, such as this project will install, will give the traveling public a safer driving experience.
  13. This project is a safety improvement project that will not involve construction other than that required to install the signals. County has not provided a profile drawing of crossing because the profile will not change and to do so will be expensive and burdensome.
  14. County agrees to respond to all question propounded by the commission or it's Staff concerning the application.
  15. If a hearing is scheduled, County would like to request the hearing be held in Trinidad, Colorado or, for an alternate location, Denver, Colorado.

WHEREFORE, the County, on a motion duly made and adopted by unanimous vote of the Las Animas County Board of County Commissioners, does hereby request that the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado authorize funding for the upgrading of the above described crossing, including the installation, operation, and maintenance of the crossing warning system.

Dated at Trinidad, Colorado, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, and 2016.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LAS ANIMAS COUNTY  
STATE OF COLORADO

By   
Mack R. Loudon Commissioner

By   
Gary D. Hill Commissioner

By   
Anthony Abeyta Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Las Animas County Clerk & Recorder