

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 55479

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 THE COUNTY OF PLUMAS for an order )  
 authorizing the installation of )  
 flashing light signals at Railroad ) Application No. 38893  
 Crossing No. 4K-7.7, Taylorsville )  
 Road, near Crescent Mills, Plumas )  
 County, California, and for an order )  
 apportioning the cost of said )  
 installation. )

John F. Keane, for applicant.  
Otis J. Gibson, for The Western Pacific  
 Railroad Company, protestant.  
Martin J. Lewis, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

By this application, filed March 8, 1957, the County of Plumas requests an order requiring the installation of flashing light signals at the grade crossing of Taylorsville Road, a county road, and The Western Pacific Railroad Company tracks designated as No. 4K-7.7, and apportioning the cost thereof fifty percent to the County and fifty percent to the railroad.

Public hearing was held in Quincy on July 25, 1957, before Examiner Rowe at which time evidence was adduced and the matter submitted for decision. A member of the Commission staff assisted in developing the record but offered no evidence on its behalf.

At the point of crossing, the tracks are parallel to and approximately 130 feet east of State Highway 89. Taylorsville Road crosses the tracks and enters the State Highway from the east. Taylorsville Road does not continue west of the State

Highway. The crossing is at present protected only by reflectorized crossing signs. According to a traffic count with mechanical counters, 1,368 automobiles used this crossing in the three days of July 20 to 22 inclusive. The road is being improved at the present time and a substantial increase in traffic may be expected in the near future. There are approximately eight train movements per day over the crossing, consisting of freight trains and helper engines, travelling 35 miles per hour. The motorists' view of trains is partially obstructed. The greatest hazard appears to be to motorists making right turns from State Highway 89 onto Taylorsville Road.

The estimated cost of No. 8 flashing light signals equipped with extra lights to give advance warning to persons traveling in vehicles on State Highway 89 is \$7,640. The Commission finds that such No. 8 flashing light signals so equipped are required to properly warn operators of motor vehicles of the approach of equipment on the tracks. The costs of installation should be borne jointly by the railroad and the County. The maintenance of such signals is a proper operating cost and should be borne solely by the railroad.

O R D E R

Application therefor having been filed, public hearing having been held, and basing its decision upon the evidence of record and the findings in the above opinion.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the grade crossing over The Western Pacific Railroad Company tracks at Taylorsville Road in Plumas County near Crescent Mills designated as Crossing No. 4K-7.7 on the company and

Commission records shall be protected by two Standard No. 8 flashing light signals of the type shown in General Order No. 75-B equipped with reflectorized "Stop On Red Signal" signs and with two extra lights to warn motorists making right turns from State Highway 89 to Taylorsville Road.

2. That the acquisition and installation of said protection shall be effected by The Western Pacific Railroad Company within ninety days after the effective date of this decision and the expense thereof shall be borne fifty percent by said Railroad Company and fifty percent by the County of Plumas.

3. That the cost of maintaining said flashing light signals shall be borne by the Railroad Company.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at Los Angeles, California, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1957.

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President  
*Paul L. ...*  
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*R. ...*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*E. ...*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioners  
Peter E. Mitchell  
Commissioner Matthew J. Doolley being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.