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ICC Approves New Highway-Rail Safety Projects in Clark Co.

Springfield, IL – The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) approved multiple rail crossing upgrades to improve highway-rail safety in Clark County. Stipulated Agreement 2281 requires new automatic warning signals and approach grade improvements at the CR 1900E (AAR/DOT #546336G), Baystown Rd (AAR/DOT #546342K), and N. 1400th St (AAR/DOT #546343S) crossings.

"Intersections where highway traffic and train tracks meet can be high risk spots for collisions, particularly without proper maintenance or warning signs. Safety projects like these are an important tool for keeping these collisions to a minimum and keeping Illinois railways safe for all who use them," said ICC Commissioner Michael T. Carrigan.

The total estimated cost for the warning signals at the three crossings is \$1,237,218. The Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) will be used to pay 95 percent of the costs, not to exceed \$1,175,358. CSX will be responsible for the remainder of the project's costs, as well as future signal and circuitry maintenance.

The total estimated cost of the proposed highway approach rehabilitation is \$637,880, 100 percent of which will be covered by the GCPF, up to \$637,880. The Townships will remain responsible for maintenance of the highway approaches in their respective jurisdictions.

All work is to be completed within 18 months from the order date.

The orders can be found in Docket No. T23-0103

ABOUT THE STATE OF ILLINOIS GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION FUND (GCPF)

In 1955, the State of Illinois passed legislation creating the GCPF. Since then, Illinois has strengthened its commitment to public highway-rail safety by increasing funding toward projects such as the closure and consolidation of existing public crossings, installation of new warning systems, highway approach improvements, upgrades to existing warning devices and interconnection to nearby traffic signals, construction/reconstruction of grade separation structures and the construction of pedestrian grade separations. The Commission administers the GCPF, which is funded by motor fuel tax money designated for rail safety improvements. The General Assembly appropriates \$42 million annually for the GCPF. For more information and to see the ICC's annual Crossing Safety Improvement Program, click here.

ABOUT THE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION (ICC)

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient, and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric,

natural gas, telecommunications, water, and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities, and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices, and bureaus, click here. If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint here. For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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