

# **News from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission**

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## **CORPORATION COMMISSON DENIES REQUEST TO CLOSE RAIL CROSSINGS**

***Commissioners say safety would not be served by closings***

**(Oklahoma City) – The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has denied a request by Sand Springs Railway Company that it be allowed to close 7 rail crossings in west Tulsa.**

**“Safety is our utmost concern, and our decision today reflects that,” said Commission Chairman Denise Bode. “The evidence is clear that closing the crossings would create more problems than it would solve.”**

**Vice-Chairman Bob Anthony agreed.**

**“Closing those crossings would increase traffic congestion through residential neighborhoods, and at the crossings left open,” Anthony said.**

**The Commissioners also said testimony in the case made it clear closing the seven crossings would cause problems for emergency vehicles needing to make a quick entrance and exit in the area.**

**The Commissioners also expressed concern with the condition of the crossings, saying the viability of the crossings must be addressed. However, the Commission feels that these issues are best resolved at the local level, and is urging the company to work with the community to find a solution.**

**The 7 crossings in question are located at 38th, 39th, 40th, 45th, 51st, 53rd and 61st west avenues in Tulsa.**

**The Sand Springs Railway Company delivers materials to some 35 customers between Tulsa and Sand Springs.**

**Commissioner Ed Apple did not vote, having recused himself from hearing the case.**

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