

Request for Experimental Authority

BNSF Railway Company (“BNSF”) requests experimental authority for the operation of one GPS passive antenna repeater to retransmit GPS signals inside a tunnel in furtherance of the congressional mandate to deploy PTC on designated line segments pursuant to the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (“RSIA”).

BNSF is currently authorized to operate GPS antennae located at rail facilities in other locations. BNSF is requesting authorization to operate a GPS antenna location in Scenic, Washington within the Cascade Tunnel. The GPS antenna subject to this request will retransmit the GPS signal into a tunnel as described in the attached application. GPS equipment installed in the locomotives will provide specific location information for traveling trains. Use of the GPS antenna at the Cascade Tunnel will allow BNSF to use the equipment installed in the locomotive and provide an immediate critical analysis of system status.

The retransmission of the GPS signal through use of the GPS antenna will allow the continued development of BNSF’s PTC system, resulting in a quicker development timeline. The experimental license will facilitate the design and development of the PTC providing for safer movement of freight and passengers on the nation’s rail infrastructure. Absent the GPS repeater, BNSF would not be able to effectively use GPS capability. Because deployment is mandated by the RSIA, grant of the requested license is in the public interest.

In connection with the FCC Form 442 submitted with this request, BNSF agrees to the following special conditions for the proposed operations:

- 1.) Operation is limited to activity for the purpose of repeating GPS in a tunnel.
- 2.) BNSF Railway Company shall post signs on entrances to the area notifying that, “GPS re-radiator is in use and the GPS information you receive may be in error.”
- 3.) Chris Scheffler (913-551-4015) will be the designated point-of-contact, in case of any harmful interference during use.
- 4.) The equipment will only be used in a tunnel and shall be under the control of BNSF Railway Company.

Should the Commission require additional information, it is requested to please contact Greg Kunkle of Keller and Heckman LLP, 1001 G Street NW, Suite 500 West, Washington, DC 20001; kunkle@khlaw.com; 202.434.4178.