

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

**Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio**

2010 JUL 21 AM 10:34

PUCO

Memo

To: Docketing Division
From: George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division *GM*
Re: In the matter of the authorization of the Norfolk Southern Railway to install an active grade crossing warning device in Seneca County
Date: July 21, 2010

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) has secured funding for the Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) to install active grade crossing warning devices as follows:

Seneca County, Reed Township, Reedtown Rd/TR 126, DOT# 481620P, **mast-mounted flashing lights and roadway gates**

The crossing was surveyed on May 12, 2010 and was found to warrant the upgrade.

The project is actual cost and will be paid for with federal funds. Staff requests an Entry with plans and estimates to be submitted to ORDC and the Commission within 90 days and completion within one year. Upon approval of the plans and estimates by ORDC construction may commence. A suggested case coding and heading would be:

PUCO Case No. 10- 1003 -RR-FED In the matter of the authorization of the Norfolk Southern Railway to install an active grade crossing warning device in Seneca County

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record

* This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician SB Date Processed 7/21/10

Ms Susan Kirkland

Ohio Rail Development Commission

1980 West Broad St

Columbus, Oh 43223

Mr Rick Ray

Norfolk Southern Railway

1200 Peachtree NE, Box 123

Atlanta, Ga 30309

Ms Katherine Jett

Reed Township Trustees

2776 North CR 27

Bellevue, Oh 44811

Ohio Edison

1910 W Market St

Akron, Oh 44313



Diagnostic Review Team Survey

Date

: 5-12-10

Location Data

Street or Road Name:

Reedtown Road

Route/Road Number
(i.e. Twp., Co., SR or US)

(include SLM if State or US route)

AAR-DOT No.:

481 620 P

County:

Seneca

Township:

Reed

City:

(In or Near)

Reedtown

Railroad

Name:

Norfolk Southern

Railroad

Division:

Lake

Branch/Line

Name:

Sandusky

Nearest RR

Timetable Station:

Frank

RR Milepost:

87.94

On-Site Review Team

(Include: Name - Organization - Phone Number)

1. Ted Darcus ORDC 614-374-9298
2. George Martin PVCO 614-752-9107
3. Herman Holmer Trustee 419-681-5547
4. Dave Kin Seneca Cty. Eng. Dept. 419-447-1011
5. Chuck Muller Reed Twp. Trustee 419-585-8031
6. Kate Jett Reed Twp. Fiscal Officer 419-483-2363
7. Johnny Geasel Seneca East Transportation Comm. 419-618-4101
8. Ramon Gullatt CFS Supervisor 260-215-2183
- 9.

Existing Traffic Control Devices

Type of Warning Devices	Installed?		Quantity/Comments
Advance Warning Signs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
'Stop' Signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
'Stop Ahead' Signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Pavement Markings	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Crossbucks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	2
Number of Tracks Signs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	2 tracks
Inventory Tags	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	2
Interconnected Highway Traffic Signal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Mast-Mounted Flashing Lights	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Cantilever Flashing Lights	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number: Length:
Side Lights	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Automatic Gates	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number: Length:
Bells	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Sidewalk Gate Arms	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
'No Turn' Signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Illumination	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is crossing flagged by train crew?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Safety Data (Obtain crash reports, if possible, prior to review)

	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Number & dates of crashes in previous 5 years	0	0
Hazard Ranking	547	Date Run: 5/12/10

Railroad Data

Railroad Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Total trains per day		20
< 1 per day		8
Day thru trains		8
Night thru trains		10
Daytime switching movements		
Nighttime switching movements		
Total number of tracks		2
Number of main tracks		2
Number of other tracks		
Maximum train speed		50
Typical train speed		50
Amtrak		N/D

If non-gated crossing, is clearing sight distance adequate in all quadrants? (See Table 1) ☒ Yes ☐ NoIf multiple tracks, can two trains occupy crossing at the same time? ☒ Yes ☐ NoCan one train block the motorists' view of another train at crossing? ☒ Yes (Explain below) ☐ NoAre there other track(s) crossing this same roadway within 100 ft of this crossing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, Crossing DOT #(if different) _____

If yes, distance _____ (take measurement between track centerlines at closest point along roadway)

Roadway DataLocal Highway Authority: Reed

Roadway Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Average daily traffic		110
Highway paved	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Roadway Surface: ☒ Blacktop ☐ Gravel ☐ Concrete ☐ Other _____Roadway width: 12 ft.

Number of highway lanes

Urban or Rural

Vehicle Speed: 55 MPHSchool Bus Operation: ☐ No ☒ Yes _____ AmountHazardous Materials Trucks: ☐ No ☒ Yes 4 AmountShoulders: ☐ No ☒ YesIs the shoulder surfaced? ☒ No ☐ YesIs there existing guardrail along roadway in crossing vicinity? ☒ No ☐ YesIs stopping site distance adequate? (See Table 2) ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, deficient approach(es) _____

Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: <input type="checkbox"/> Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: <input type="checkbox"/> Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None
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Pedestrians: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Is sidewalk present? ☒ No ☐ Yes

Is there a nearby intersection that could cause queuing over the crossing? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes,

Distance _____

Is this intersection signalized? ☒ No ☐ Yes

Are the signals currently interconnected with the existing crossing warning devices? ☒ No ☐ Yes

Is it the consensus of the Diagnostic Review Team that this is a potential closure project? ☒ No ☐ Yes

Explain reasons:

Type of Development

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Space | <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential | |

Location of nearby schools:

7-8

Utility Information

Is commercial power available? ☐ No ☒ Yes

Utility Provider (Company Name) Ohio Edison

Phone Number _____

Nearest Available Power Source at crossing

What other utilities are present? Verizon

Is there potential utility conflict(s) ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Diagnostic Team Recommendations

	Quadrants Needed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Install/upgrade active devices	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic Flashing Lights (AFLS)	
<input type="checkbox"/> AFLS / Cants	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AFLS / Gates	
<input type="checkbox"/> AFLS / Gates / Cants	
<input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade circuitry	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sidelights	
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardrail Needed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Install/Replace curb	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (define)	

Comments:

None

☐ Install/upgrade traffic signal preemption

☒ No improvements needed

☐ Other (define)

Field Dimensions

The diagram shows a street cross-section with a central vertical line. On the left side, from top to bottom, are the labels: Sidewalk, Parkway, Roadway, Roadway, Parkway, and Sidewalk. On the right side, from top to bottom, are the labels: Sidewalk, Parkway, and Roadway. Dashed vertical lines with arrows at both ends indicate measurement points for each section. A box in the top right corner is labeled "Show North Direction".

Crossing Angle ☐ 0-29° ☐ 30-59° ☐ 60-90° Measured in _____ Quadrant?

Measurements by: _____

Field Sketch

See attached aerial

Crossing Angle ☐ 0-29° ☐ 30-59° ☒ 60-90° Measured in _____ Quadrant?

Sketch by: JAO

TABLE 1

Clearing Sight Distances

Maximum Authorized Train Speed	Distance (dT) Along Railroad from Crossing (ft)
1 - 10	240
15	360
20	480
25	600
30	720
35	840
40	960
45	1080
50	1200
55	1320
60	1440
65	1560
70	1680
75	1800
80	1920
85	2040
90	2160

Source: R-H Grade Crossing Handbook Table 36 (pp. 132-133)

Notes:

All calculated distances are rounded up to the next higher 5-foot increment.

Distances indicated are for 65-ft double bottom semi-tractor trailers and level single track 90 degree crossings; and may need to be adjusted for multiple tracks, skewed crossings or approaches on grades.

Clearing Sight Distance is to be measured in each vehicle travel direction at non-gated crossings as viewed from a point 25 feet from centerline of nearest track in the center of whichever travel lane is nearest the direction along track being measured.

Table 2

Stopping Sight Distances

Highway Vehicle Speed	Distance (dH) Along Roadway from Crossing (ft)
0	n/a
5	50
10	70
15	105
20	135
25	180
30	225
35	280
40	340
45	410
50	490
55	570
60	660
65	760
70	865

Source: R-H Grade Crossing Handbook Table 36 (pp. 132-133)

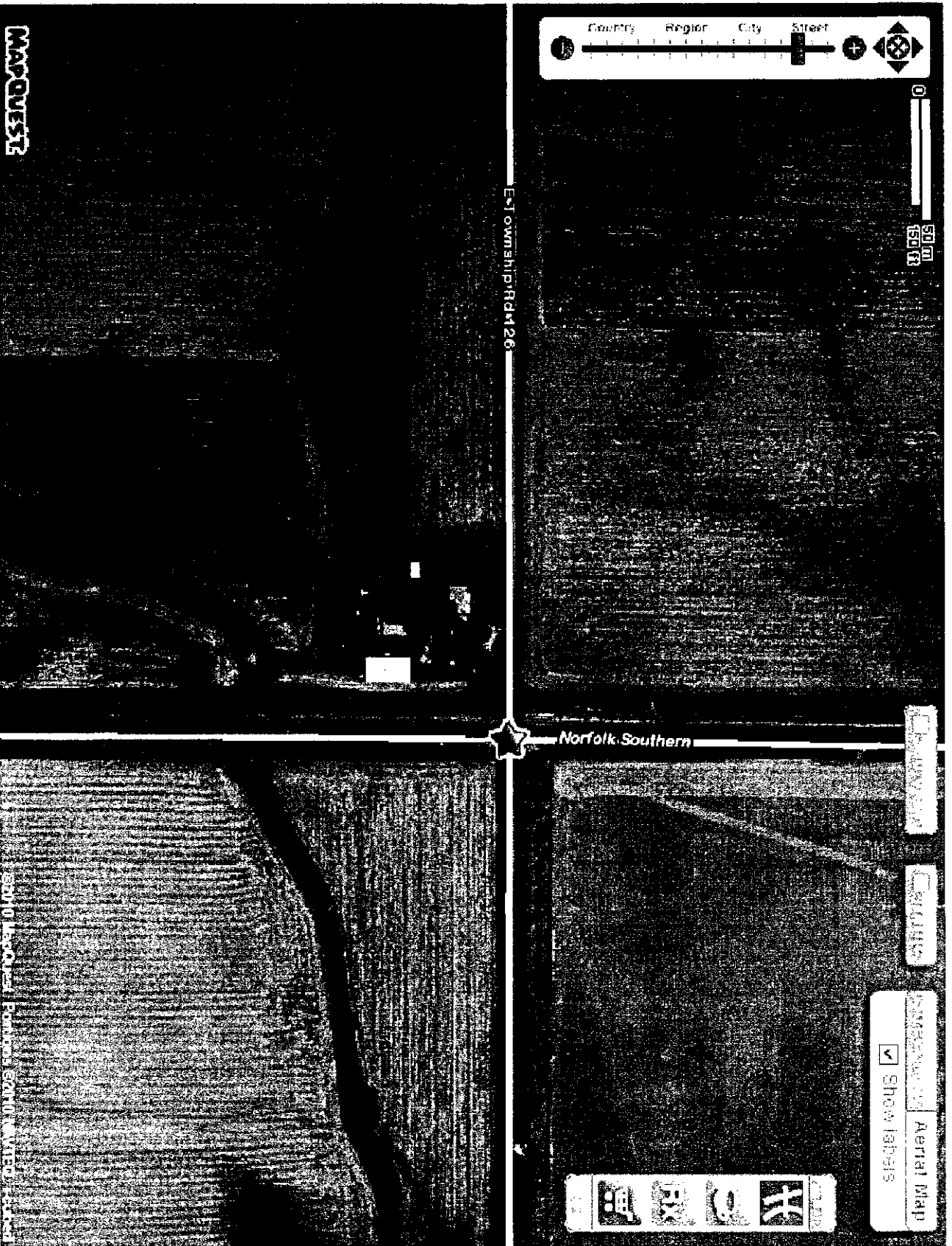
Notes:

All calculated distances are rounded up to the next higher 5-foot increment.

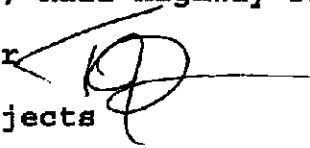
Distances indicated are for 65-ft double bottom semi-tractor trailers on dry level pavements.

Stopping Sight Distance is to be measured on each roadway approach to crossing from stop bar.

SEN, Reedtown Rd., 481620P



**OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

TO: George Martin, Planner, Railroad Division, PUCO
FROM: Susan Kirkland, Supervisor, Rail-Highway Safety Section
BY: Tod Darfus, Project Manager 
SUBJECT: Grade Crossing Warning Projects
DATE: July 2, 2010

You may authorize the Norfolk Southern Railroad to proceed with the non-field work for the project listed below. This construction authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that any field work needs prior approval before work begins. This authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that an approved estimate may contain entries for items or activities that may be cited and found to be ineligible for federal participation during the project audit. The construction portion and preliminary engineering will be financed with federal funds.

Please initiate a one (1) year order with the plan and estimate due in ninety (90) days for the following.

Seneca-Reedtown Road/TR-126 AAR # 481 620 P

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

TD:td

c: File

Martin, George

From: Dalton, Leah
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 3:56 PM
To: Martin, George
Subject: FW: Diagnostic Review for Seneca County on Reedtown Road, TR 126, AAR DOT# 481620P (NS)

From: Catherine.Stout@dot.state.oh.us [mailto:Catherine.Stout@dot.state.oh.us]
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 3:52 PM
To: sevenj@hmcld.net; Rick Ray; Dalton, Leah; Tod.Darfus@dot.state.oh.us
Subject: Diagnostic Review for Seneca County on Reedtown Road, TR 126, AAR DOT# 481620P (NS)

Everyone:

I am establishing a diagnostic review for the railroad grade crossing outlined below. This on-site meeting will determine the need for upgrading of warning devices. Should improvements be warranted, the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) will be the funding agency. Tod Darfus will be the Project Manager from the ORDC leading the diagnostic review, he can be reached at (614) 374-9298.

Seneca County Reedtown Road, TR 126 AAR DOT# 481620P (NS)

The review will take place on **Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.** at the grade crossing.

It is crucial that both the local highway authority and the railroad be present at this review. **Please respond to this e-mail and let me know who from your company will be attending the meeting.** If it is impossible for your company to be represented at the meeting, let me know and we will select another date and time.

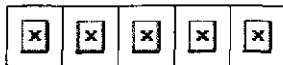
The diagnostic team will need to evaluate current traffic and railroad data during the review process. Representatives from the railroad should come prepared to discuss current train volumes and speed, and bring railroad circuitry plans, and the local highway authority should come prepared to discuss the current average daily traffic count and school bus usage of the crossing.

Thank you,

Cathy Stout
Assistant Manager, Safety Programs
Ohio Rail Development Commission
1980 W. Broad Street, 2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43223
614-644-0313

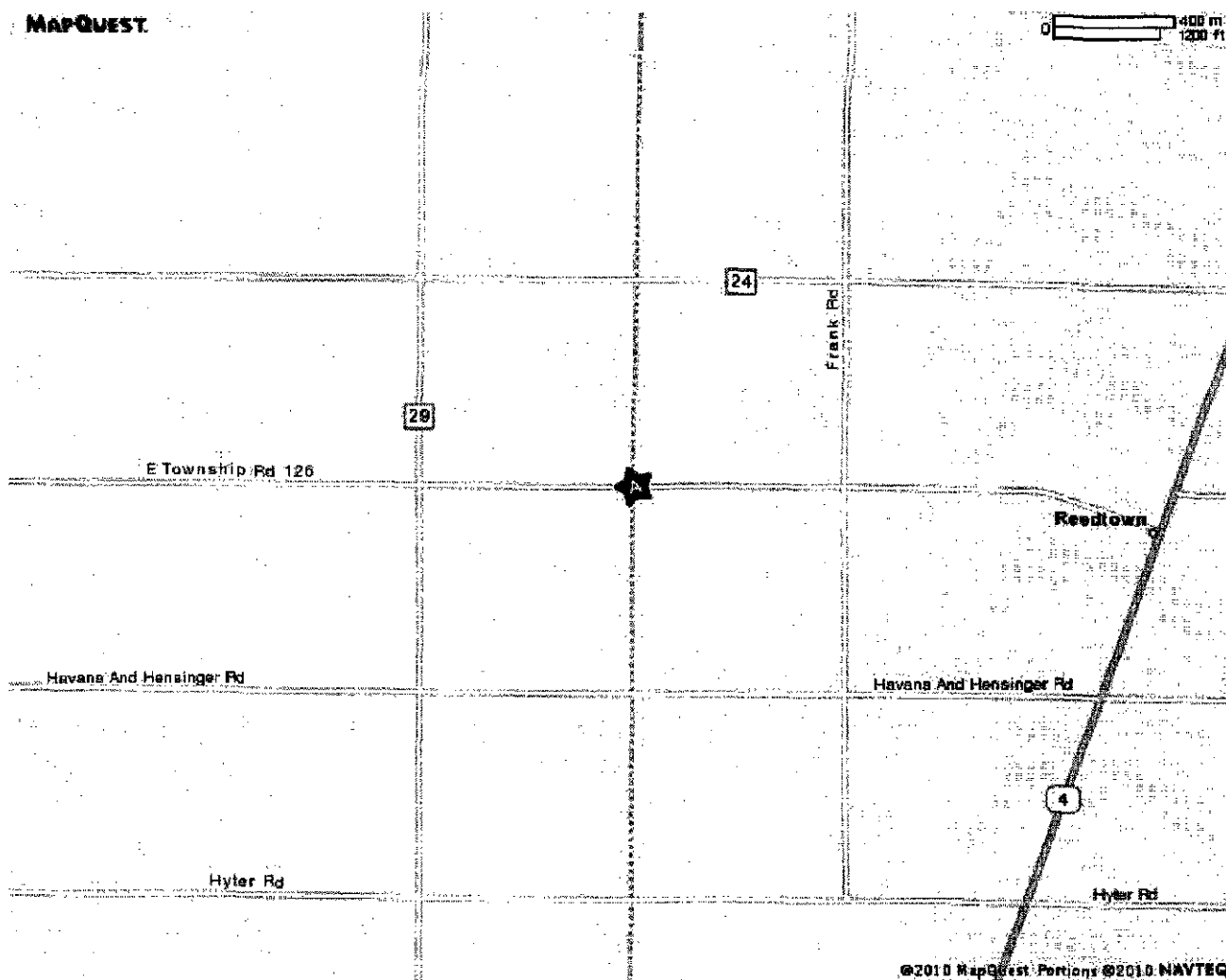
REED TWP.
ADT 115 (2008)
29 TRAINS @ 60 mph (2009)
DOUBLE MAIN

US 23 N - SR 4 N

**MAPQUEST.**

Sorry! When printing directly from the browser your directions or map may not print correctly. For best results, try clicking the Printer-Friendly button.

★ Latitude: 41.1535623
Longitude: -82.8708862
Bellevue, OH 44811

MAPQUEST.

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