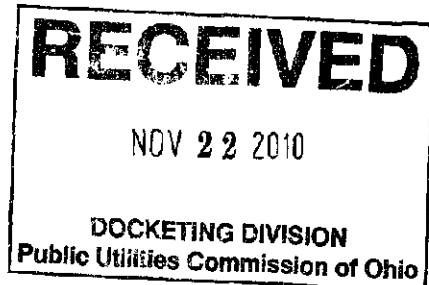


FILE



**Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio**

Memo

To: Docketing Division

From: George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division *gms*

Re: In the matter of the authorization of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway to install active grade crossing warning devices in Summit County

Date: November 22, 2010

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) has authorized funding for the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway (WE) to install mast-mounted flashing lights and roadway gates at the following locations in Summit County:

SR 82/Aurora Rd, City of Twinsburg, DOT# 472689L

SR 91/Darrow Rd, City of Twinsburg, DOT# 475950G

These crossings were surveyed due to a constituent complaint through the Angels on Track Foundation. The crossings were surveyed on September 13, 2010, and were found to warrant the upgrades.

These projects are actual cost and will be federally funded. Staff requests an Entry with plans and estimates to be submitted to the Commission and ORDC 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- *2786* -RR-FED In the matter of the authorization of the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway to install active grade crossing warning devices in Summit County

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 *SMS* Date Processed *11/23/10*

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record.

Ms Susan Kirkland

Ohio Rail Development Commission

1980 W Broad St, 2nd Floor

Columbus, Oh 43223

Mr Dan Reinsel

Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway

100 E First St

Brewster, Oh 44613

Ohio Edison

1910 W Market St

Akron, Oh 44313

Mr Mark Thomas

ODOT District 4

2088 S Arlington Rd

Akron, Oh 44306

Ms Amy Mohr

City Engineer

10075 Ravenna Rd

Twinsburg, Oh 44087

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

TO: George Martin, Planner, Railroad Division, PUCO
FROM: Susan Kirkland, Manager, Safety Section, ORDC
BY: Cathy Stout, Safety Section, ORDC *Cathy Stout*
SUBJECT: Summit County, Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad (WLE)
SR 82-9.19 Aurora Road, AAR# 472689L
SR 91-20.36 Darrow Road, AAR# 475950G
PID No. 89405
DATE: November 22, 2010

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) established a diagnostic review at the subject locations on September 13, 2010. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) attended the review. The Diagnostic Team recommended the installation of flashing lights and roadway gates. A copy of the diagnostic review form is attached.

The warning device improvement project on Aurora Road was requested by a constituent through *The Angels on Track Foundation* website. The warning device improvement on Darrow Road is in close proximity to Aurora road. The ORDC will fund the project by reimbursing WLE at 100% of eligible costs.

Please issue an Order for the project outlined above. This construction authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that any field work needs prior approval before the 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.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

Attachment: Diagnostic Reviews (2)

c: M. Forté (file)
Dan Reinsel, WLE



Diagnostic Review Team Survey

Date: 9-13-2010

Location Data			
Street or Road Name: E Aurora Rd			
Route/Road Number (i.e. Twp., Co., SR or US) SR 82 (include SLM if State or US route) 9.19		AAR-DOT No.: 472689L	
County: Summit	Township:	City: Twinsburg Twinsburg	
Railroad Name: WLE	Railroad Division: CLEVELAND	Branch/Line Name:	
Nearest RR Timetable Station: Falls Jct		RR Milepost: 20.9	

Consultative Review Team		
(Include: Name - Organization - Phone Number)		
1. MIKE FORTE	ORDC	614-374-9287
2. Ray Kolasa	WLE	330-904-0700
3. Amy Mohr	Crossing/Twinsburg	330-963-6233
4. Mark Thomas	ODOT Rail	330-786-4846
5. GEORGE MARTIN	PUCO	614-752-9107
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		

Existing Traffic Control Devices		
Type of Warning Devices	Installed?	Quantity/Comments
Advance Warning Signs	☒ Yes ☐ No	2
'Stop' Signs	☐ Yes ☒ No	
'Stop Ahead' Signs	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Pavement Markings	☒ Yes ☐ No	Stop lines & RR crossing symbols
Crossbucks	☒ Yes ☐ No	2 - standard
Number of Tracks Signs	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Inventory Tags	☒ Yes ☒ No	
Interconnected Highway Traffic Signal	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Mast-Mounted Flashing Lights	☒ Yes ☐ No	
Cantilever Flashing Lights	☐ Yes ☒ No	Number: Length:
Side Lights	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Automatic Gates	☐ Yes ☒ No	Number: Length:
Bells	☒ Yes ☒ No	1
Sidewalk Gate Arms	☐ Yes ☒ No	
'No Turn' Signs	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Illumination	☒ Yes ☐ No	
Is crossing flagged by train crew?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Other	☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Number & dates of crashes in previous 5 years	1 - 2/28/08	
Hazard Ranking	152 Date Run: 8-23-10	

Railroad Data

Railroad Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Total trains per day	2	
< 1 per day		
Day thru trains	1	
Night thru trains	1	
Daytime switching movements	0	
Nighttime switching movements	0	
Total number of tracks	1	
Number of main tracks	1	
Number of other tracks	0	
Maximum train speed	35	10
Typical train speed		10
Amtrak	NO	

If non-gated crossing, is clearing sight distance adequate in all quadrants? (See Table 1) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If multiple tracks, can two trains occupy crossing at the same time? ☐ Yes ☐ No **(NA)**

Can one train block the motorists' view of another train at crossing? ☐ Yes (Explain below) ☐ No

Are there other track(s) crossing this same roadway within 100 ft of this crossing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, Crossing DOT # (if different) _____

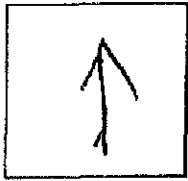
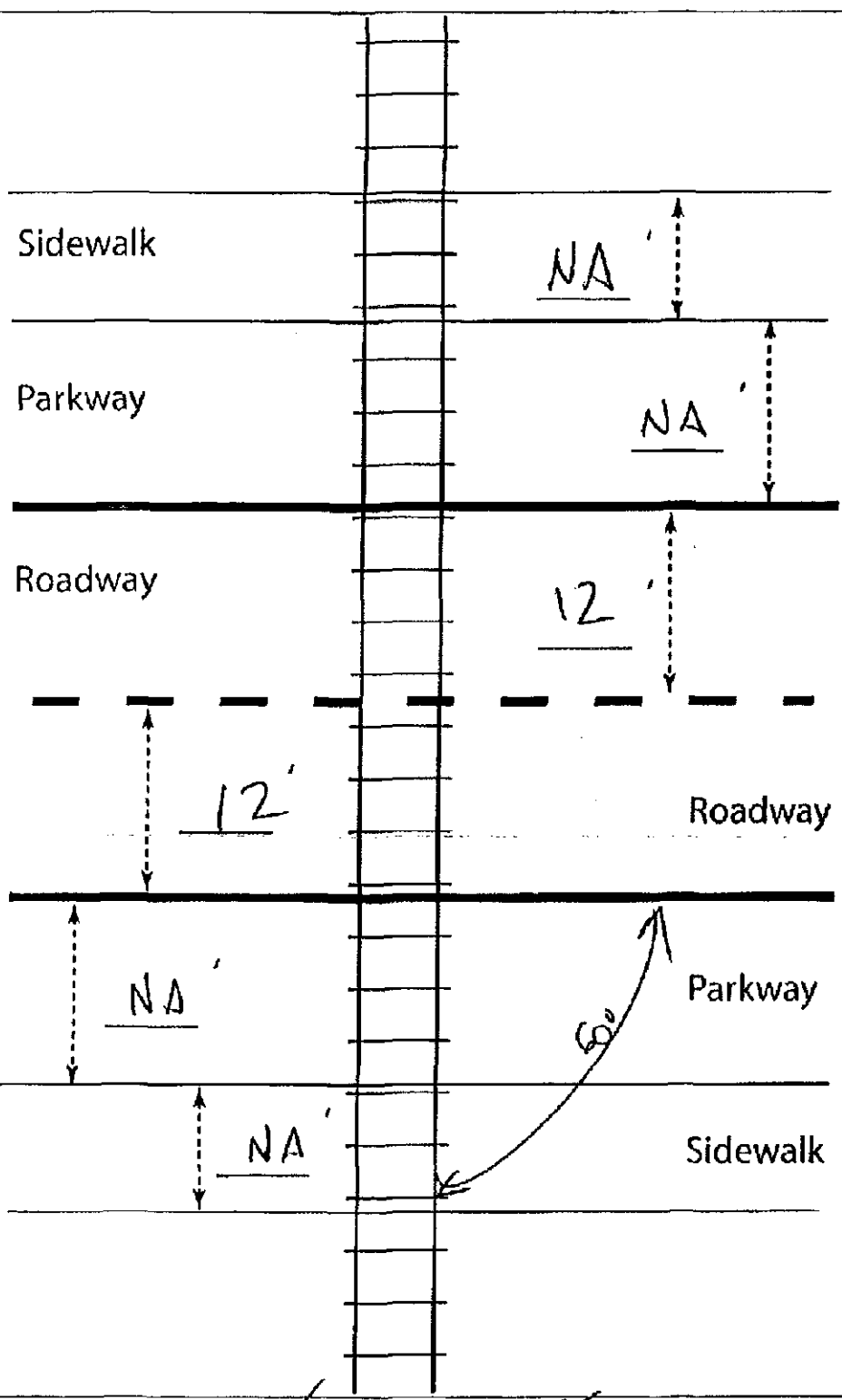
If yes, distance _____ (take measurement between track centerlines at closest point along roadway)

Roadway Data

Local Highway Authority: State, City of Twinsburg

Roadway Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Average daily traffic	11490 72008	(2008)
Highway paved	☒ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Roadway Surface: ☒ Blacktop ☐ Gravel ☐ Concrete ☐ Other _____		
Roadway width: <u>28</u> ft.		
Number of highway lanes	2	
Urban or Rural	Urban	
Vehicle Speed: <u>35</u> MPH		
School Bus Operation: ☐ No ☒ Yes _____ Amount		
Hazardous Materials Trucks: ☐ No ☒ Yes _____ Amount		
Shoulders: ☐ No ☒ Yes		
Is the shoulder surfaced? ☐ No ☒ Yes		
Is there existing guardrail along roadway in crossing vicinity? ☐ No ☒ Yes		
Is stopping site distance adequate? (See Table 2) ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, deficient approach(es) _____		
Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: ☐ Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) ☐ Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") ☒ None	Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: ☐ Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) ☐ Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") ☒ None	

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:	
☒ Open Space ☐ Industrial ☐ Residential	☐ Institutional ☐ Commercial Location of nearby schools:
Utility Information:	
Is commercial power available? ☐ No ☒ Yes	
Utility Provider (Company Name) <u>1ST ENERGY</u>	Phone Number _____
Nearest Available Power Source <u>AT KING</u>	
What other utilities are present? <u>GAS, ELECTRIC, PHONE, CABLE</u>	
Is there potential utility conflict(s) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown	
Diagnostic Team Recommendations	
☒ Install/upgrade active devices ☐ Automatic Flashing Lights (AFLS) ☐ AFLS / Cants ☒ AFLS / Gates ☐ AFLS / Gates / Cants ☐ Upgrade circuitry ☐ Sidelights ☐ Guardrail Needed ☐ Install/Replace curb ☐ Other (define)	Quadrants Needed
Comments: <u>BELL - WHILE DECEENDING</u>	
☐ Install/upgrade traffic signal preemption ☐ No improvements needed ☐ Other (define)	
Field Dimensions	

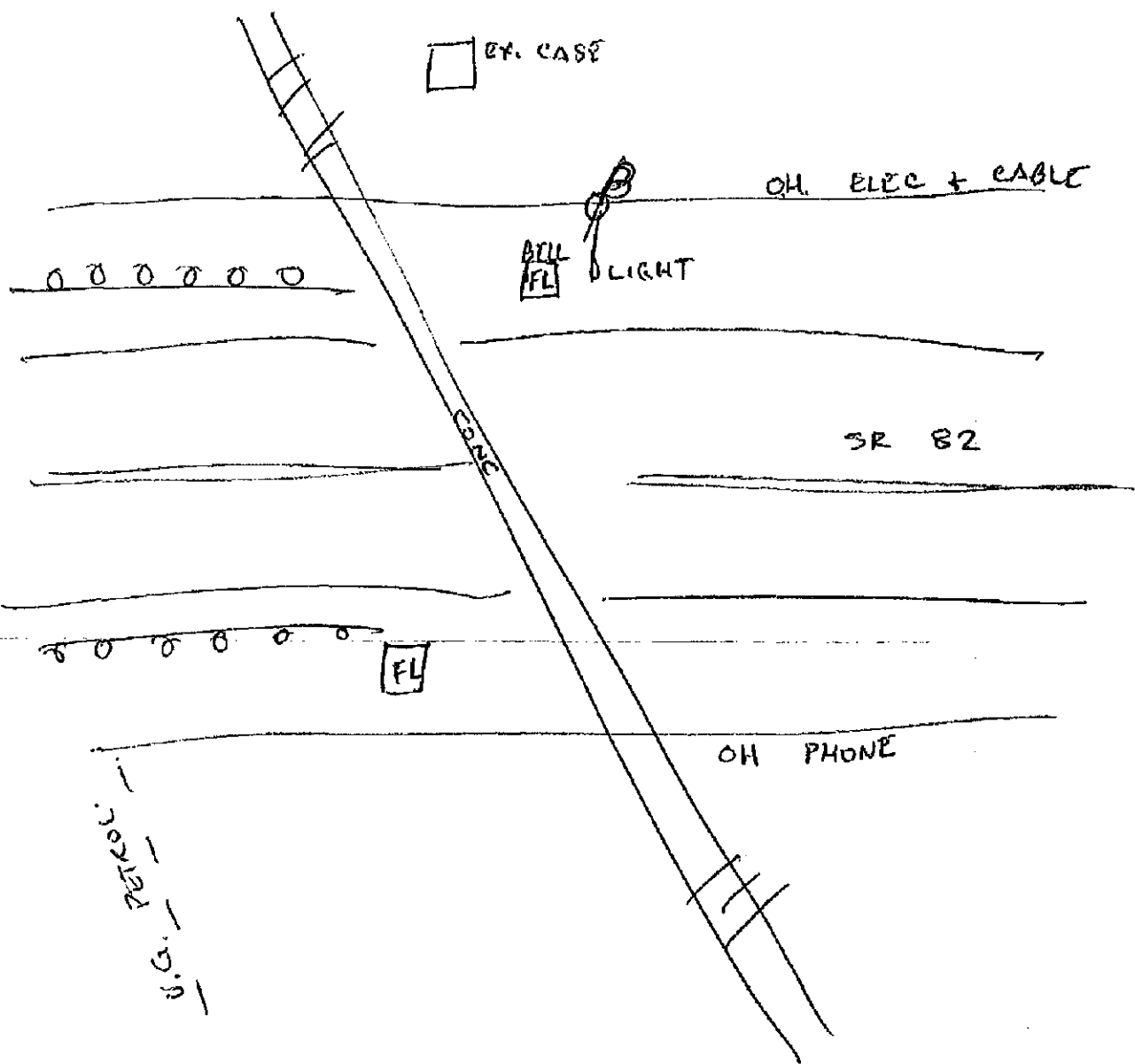


Show North
Direction

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

Measurements by: MOF

Field Sketch



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

Sketch by: MDX

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.



Diagnostic Review Team Survey

Date: 9-13-2010

The (100) Data			
Street or Road Name: Darrow Rd.			
Route/Road Number (i.e. Twp., Co., SR or US) SR 91 (include SEM if State or US route) 20.36		AAR-DOT No.: 4759506	
County: Summit	Township:	City: (In brackets) Twinsburg	
Railroad Name: WLE	Sub Division: CLEVELAND	Branch/Line Name:	
Nearest RR Timetable Station: Falls Jct		RR Milepost: 19.16	

Diagnostic Review Team		
(Include: Name - Organization - Phone Number)		
1. MIKE FORTE	ORDC	614-644-0283
2. RAY KOLASZ	WLE	330-904-0700
3. GEORGE MARTIN	PUCO	614-752-9107
4. Amy Mch	City of Twinsburg	(330) 963-6233
5. Mark Thomas	ODOT Rail	(330) 786-4840
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		

Existing Traffic Control Devices			
Type of Warning Devices	Installed?		Quantity/Comments
Advance Warning Signs	☒ Yes	☐ No	2
'Stop' Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
'Stop Ahead' Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Pavement Markings	☒ Yes	☐ No	2 Stop lines + RR Xing Symbols
Crossbucks	☒ Yes	☐ No	
Number of Tracks Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Inventory Tags	☒ Yes	☒ No	
Interconnected Highway Traffic Signal	☐ Yes	☒ No	NA
Mast-Mounted Flashing Lights	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Cantilever Flashing Lights	☒ Yes	☐ No	Number: 2 Length:
Side Lights	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Automatic Gates	☐ Yes	☒ No	Number: Length:
Bells	☒ Yes	☒ No	1
Sidewalk Gate Arms	☐ Yes	☒ No	
'No Turn' Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Illumination	☒ Yes	☐ No	
Is crossing flagged by train crew?	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Other	☒ Yes	☐ No	2 UNEVEN TRACK SIGNS - TO BE

Sign/Device (Obtain crash report, if possible, prior to survey)

BE
RUBBED

	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Number & dates of crashes in previous 5 years	0	
Hazard Ranking	1167	Date Run: 8-23-10

Railroad Data

Railroad Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Total trains per day	2	4
< 1 per day		
Day thru trains	1	
Night thru trains	1	
Daytime switching movements	0	
Nighttime switching movements	0	
Total number of tracks	1	
Number of main tracks	1	
Number of other tracks	0	
Maximum train speed	35 10	45
Typical train speed		45
Amtrak		N

If non-gated crossing, is clearing sight distance adequate in all quadrants? (See Table 1) ☒ Yes ☒ No

If multiple tracks, can two trains occupy crossing at the same time? ☐ Yes ☐ No NA

Can one train block the motorists' view of another train at crossing? ☐ Yes (Explain below) ☐ No NA

Are there other track(s) crossing this same roadway within 100 ft of this crossing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, Crossing DOT # (if different) _____

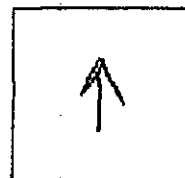
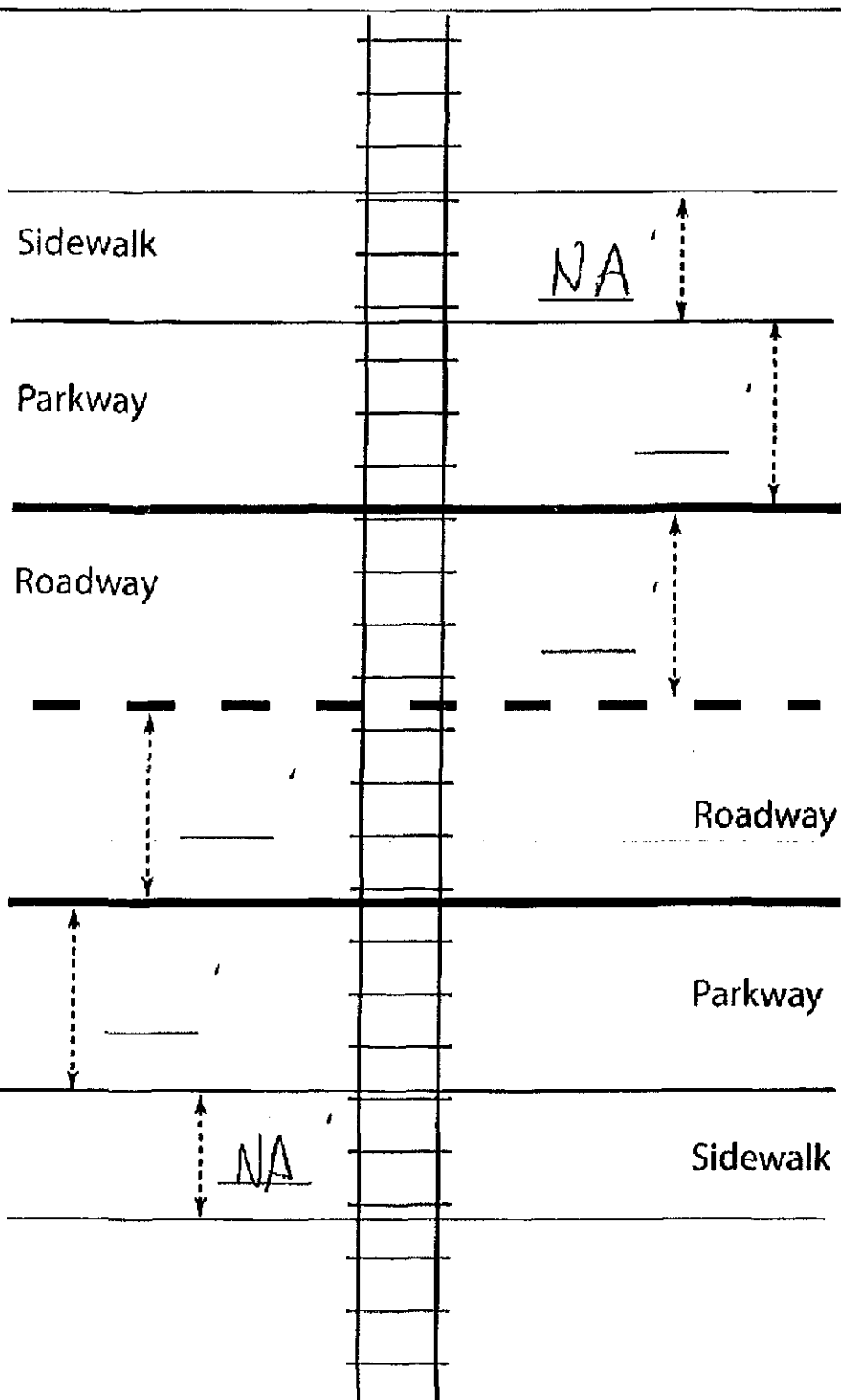
If yes, distance _____ (take measurement between track centerlines at closest point along roadway)

Roadway Data

Local Highway Authority: State, City of Twinsburg

Roadway Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Average daily traffic	16000 (2007)	
Highway paved	☒ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Roadway Surface: ☒ Blacktop ☐ Gravel ☐ Concrete ☐ Other _____		
Roadway width: <u>28</u> ft.		
Number of highway lanes	2	
Urban or Rural	Urban	
Vehicle Speed: _____ MPH		
School Bus Operation: ☐ No ☒ Yes Amount? <u>SCHOOL ON STREET</u>		
Hazardous Materials Trucks: ☐ No ☒ Yes <u>3 1/2</u> Amount		
Shoulders: ☐ No ☒ Yes		
Is the shoulder surfaced? ☐ No ☒ Yes		
Is there existing guardrail along roadway in crossing vicinity? ☐ No ☒ Yes		
Is stopping site distance adequate? (See Table 2) ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, deficient approach(es) _____		
Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: ☐ Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) ☐ Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") ☒ None	Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: ☐ Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) ☐ Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") ☒ None	

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	
☐ Open Space ☐ Industrial ☒ Residential	☐ Institutional ☐ Commercial Location of nearby schools: 1/2 MILE SOUTH
Utility Information	
Is commercial power available? ☐ No ☒ Yes	
Utility Provider (Company Name) <u>1ST ENERGY</u>	Phone Number _____
Nearest Available Power Source <u>AT CROSSIN</u>	
What other utilities are present? <u>GAS, PHONE, WATER</u>	
Is there potential utility conflict(s) ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown	
Diagnostic Team Recommendations	
☒ Install/upgrade active devices ☐ Automatic Flashing Lights (AFLS) ☐ AFLS / Cants ☐ AFLS / Gates ☒ AFLS / Gates / Cants — ON NORTH SIDE ☒ Upgrade circuitry ☐ Sidelights ☐ Guardrail Needed ☐ Install/Replace curb ☐ Other (define)	Quadrants Needed ONLY
Comments: <u>BELL RINGS UNTIL GATES ARE HORIZONTAL</u>	
☐ Install/upgrade traffic signal preemption ☐ No improvements needed ☐ Other (define)	
Field Dimensions	

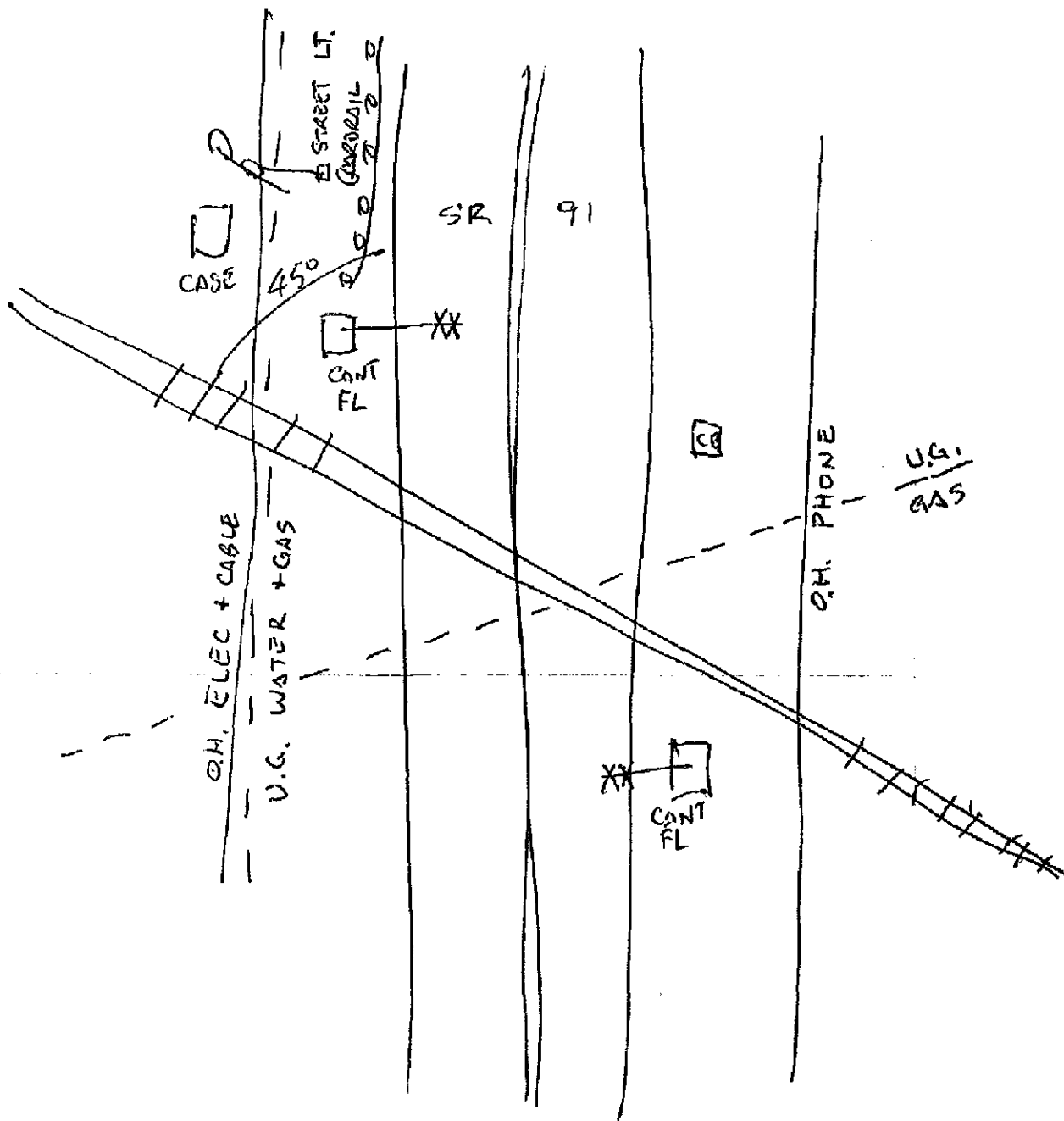


Show North
Direction

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

Measurements by: MDX

Field Sketch



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

Sketch by: MDF

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Clearing Sight Distances

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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.

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45	410
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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.