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2014 MAR 28 AM 10:05

**Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio**

PUCO

Memo

To: Docketing Division
From: George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division 
Re: In the matter of the authorization of CSX Transportation to install an active grade crossing warning device in Hardin County
Date: March 28, 2014

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) has authorized funding for CSX Transportation (CSX) to **install mast-mounted flashing lights and roadway gates** at the following location:

Hardin County, near Dunkirk, US RT 68, DOT# 513748C

The crossing was surveyed on August 21, 2013, and was found to warrant the upgrade.

The project will be paid for with federal funds, and is actual cost. As the plan and estimate has already been submitted and approved, staff requests a Finding & Order with completion of the projects in nine months. Construction may commence at once. Staff requests that the following language be incorporated in the Finding & Order:

It is expected that all work necessary for FHWA acceptance of the warning devices will be completed by the in-service due date and that the railroad will be responsible for this work. This work includes, but is not limited to:

Any ancillary work to make the warning devices function as designed and visible to the roadway user, and

MUTCD compliance, including minor roadway work if necessary.

A suggested case coding and heading would be:

PUCO Case No. 14- **502** -RR-FED In the matter of the authorization of CSX Transportation to install an active grade crossing warning device in Hardin County

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record

Ms Cathy Stout

Ohio Rail Development Commission

1980 West Broad St, Mailstop #3140

Columbus, Oh 43223

Ms Amanda DeCesare

CSX Transportation

1717 Dixie Hwy, Ste 400

Ft Wright, KY 41011

Mr Eric Scheckelhoff

ODOT District 1

1815 N McCullough Rd

Lima, Oh 45801

AEP

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

TO: Randall Schumacher, Supervisor, Rail Division, PUCO

FROM: Cathy Stout, Manager, Safety Section, ORDC

BY: Don Damron, Project Manager, ORDC

SUBJECT: Hardin County, US 68 / CSX Transportation
DOT# 513748C
PID# 96761

DATE: March 27, 2014

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) established a Diagnostic Review Team Survey at the subject highway/railroad crossing location on 8/21/13. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) attended the Diagnostic Survey. The Diagnostic Review Team recommended the improvement of warning devices from flashing lights only to flashing lights and roadway gates. Copies of the Diagnostic Review Team Survey form and the railroad plan and estimate are attached.

The PE has already been provided by the railroad. ORDC approves the site plans and estimates as provided. Please issue a construction-only order for the project outlined above. 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.

It is expected that all work necessary for FHWA acceptance of the warning devices will be completed by the in-service due date and that the railroad will be responsible for this work. This work includes, but is not limited to:

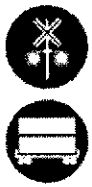
- any ancillary work to make warning devices function as designed and visible to the roadway user, and
- MUTCD compliance – including minor roadway work if necessary.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

Attachments:

Diagnostic Review Team Survey dated 8/21/13
Force Account Estimate dated 2/14/14
Proposed Crossing Layout – PE Approved Plan

c: George Martin, PUCO
ORDC Project Manager (file)



OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mail Stop #3140, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus OH 43223

John R. Kasich, Governor • James G. Bradley, Chairman

March 27, 2014

Amanda DeCesare
Project Manager – Public Projects
CSX Transportation
1717 Dixie Highway, Suite 400
Ft. Wright, KY 41011

RE: Grade Crossing Warning Device Improvement – Construction Authorization
Hardin County, US 68
DOT# 513748C
PID# 96761
CSX ACCT. CODE: OH0969

Dear Ms. DeCesare:

The Force Account Estimate dated 2/14/2014 and the Proposed Crossing Layout for the referenced project have been reviewed and are acceptable. CSX Transportation may proceed with the construction of the proposed grade crossing warning system in accordance with the abbreviated plan. This authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that the 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. Reimbursement of eligible actual cost is limited to \$264,577.00. Additional costs must be approved in writing by the Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) prior to being incurred. Emergency verbal authorizations by ORDC may be permitted and will be confirmed by ORDC in writing within ten (10) business days of the verbal approval.

This authorization is contingent upon CSX Transportation accepting the following instructions:

1. CSX's project foreman will furnish written notification five (5) working days prior to the date work will start at the project site to Don Damron, ORDC, Mail Stop #3140, 1980 West Broad Street, 2nd Floor, Columbus Ohio 43223, or email don.damron@dot.state.oh.us, or Fax 614-728-4520, (phone: 614-466-2509; cell phone: 614-917-8466), and to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio at George.martin@puc.state.oh.us (phone 614-752-9107). The CSX project foreman will also notify the same of any stops and re-starts of the work activity and of the date work was completed for the project.
2. CSX will arrange for utilities to be located at the project site by the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) prior to any construction activities at the site. Utilities that are not participating members of the service must be contacted directly by CSX.



www.rail.ohio.gov

phone: 614.644.0306

IMPROVING RAIL TODAY FOR TOMORROW'S ECONOMY

3. CSX 's project foremen will notify Don Damron at 614-917-8466 (cell phone) or don.damron@dot.state.oh.us (email) of any changes in the scope of work, cost overruns, material changes, etc. which are not included in the approved plan and estimate and secure approval of same before the work is performed.
4. CSX will furnish two (2) copies of each partial bill to ORDC. Please find the enclosed ODOT Purchase Order to reference when billing.
5. CSX will furnish two (2) copies of the final all-inclusive bill to ORDC stating the exact dates of starting and completing work, the initial and final dates of construction and location where the accounts may be audited.

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

Sincerely,



Donald J. Damron
Project Manager

C: Randall Schumacher, Supervisor, Rail Division, PUCO
George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, PUCO
ORDC (file)



Diagnostic Review Team Survey

Reason for Survey:

(e.g. formula, accident, constituent, etc.)

Constituent Concern

Date: 8/21/2013

Location Data

Street or Road Name: US 68	
Route/Road Number (i.e. Twp., Co., SR or US) US 68	US DOT No.: 513748C
County: HAR	Township: City: (In or Near) Dunkirk
Railroad Name: CSX Transportation	Railroad Division: Great Lakes Branch/Line Name: Toledo Branch
Nearest RR Timetable Station: Dunkirk	RR Milepost: 60.26

On-Site Review Team

(Include: Name - Organization - Phone Number - Email)

1. *Larry Lewis* 419.661.4780 (SigMar) *larry.lewis@csx.com*
2. *Virgil Krassow* 419-509-8979 *Virgil_Krassow@csx.com*
3. *Don Dameron* 614 466-2509 ORDC
4. *George Martin* 614-752-9107 PUCO
5. *Steve Dickinson* 419-344-6794 Signal Maintenance
6. *Eric Schackelhoff* 419-999-6879 ODOT D2 *Eric.Schackelhoff@dot.state.oh.us*
7. *Randy Preston* 419-999-6742 ODOT D1 Hardin Co.
8. _____
9. _____

Existing Traffic Control Devices

Type of Warning Devices	Installed?		Quantity/Comments
Advance Warning Signs (condition?)	<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 (condition?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Crossbucks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Number of Tracks Signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Inventory Tags	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Interconnected Highway Traffic Signal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Mast-Mounted Flashing Lights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	LED UPGRADE 4/11/13
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	Number:
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 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	None	
Hazard Ranking	1146	Date Run: 7/30/2013 HEAVY TRUCK TRAFFIC

Railroad Data

Railroad Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Total trains per day	11	OK
< 1 per day		
Day thru trains	3	
Night thru trains	5	
Daytime switching movements	3	
Nighttime switching movements	0	
Total number of tracks	1	
Number of main tracks	1	
Number of other tracks		
Maximum train speed	50	
Typical train speed	45	50 TYPICAL
Amtrak		

If non-gated crossing, is clearing sight distance adequate in all quadrants? (See Table I) ☐ Yes ☒ No **50 MPH = 1200'**

If multiple tracks, can two trains occupy crossing at the same time? ☐ Yes ☒ No **SIGNIFICANT SKEW**

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

Can one or more tracks be eliminated through the crossing? ☐ Yes ☐ 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	
Roadway Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Average daily traffic	5020 (2011)	
Highway paved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Roadway Surface:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blacktop <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
Roadway width:	24 ft.	
Number of highway lanes	2	
Urban or Rural	Rural	
Vehicle Speed:	55 MPH	
School Bus Operation:	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 Amount (OK) MAYBE 4 MAX	
Hazardous Materials Trucks:	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes LARGER % ON STATE HIGHWAY	
Shoulders:	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Is the shoulder surfaced?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Is there existing guardrail along roadway in crossing vicinity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Is stopping site distance adequate? (See Table 2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no, deficient approach(es) _____	

55 MPH = 590'

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
Pedestrians: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Is sidewalk present? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Is there a nearby intersection that could cause queuing over the crossing? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, Distance _____ Is this intersection signalized? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Are the signals currently interconnected with the existing crossing warning devices? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Is there a 'Do not Stop on Track' sign? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Is a roadway improvement project (e.g. widening, turn lanes, nearby new or upgraded traffic signal, sidewalk) planned at or near this location in the foreseeable future? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, Improvement type <u>NONE</u> Lead Agency _____ Timeline/completion _____	
Is it the consensus of the Diagnostic Review Team that this is a potential closure project: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Explain reasons:	
Type of Development	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Space <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Location of nearby schools: <u>HARDIN NORTHERN SCHOOL DISTRICT</u> <u>ODOT WILL CONFIRM # OF BUS CROSSINGS</u>
Utility Information	
Is commercial power available? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Utility Provider (Company Name) <u>AEP</u> Phone Number _____ Nearest Available Power Source <u>AT CROSSING</u>	
What other utilities are present? (add locations to sketch) <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Cable <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Fiber Optic Cable <input type="checkbox"/> Petroleum <input type="checkbox"/> Water <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
Is(are) there potential utility conflict(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
Comments: <u>NO MARKINGS</u>	

Potential Red Flags / Project Challenges

Traffic Signal Preemption (include traffic signal intersection name and LHA with jurisdiction over traffic signal, if known):

NA

Crossing Consolidation or Closure:

NA

Real Estate or ROW:

RR ROW IS CONSTRAINED / DUE TO SIGNIFICANT SKEW

Culverts / Drainage / Ballast Conditions:

DRAINAGE COULD BE AN ISSUE IN SW QUAD

" " " " " " NW QUAD

CULVERT RUNS UNDER EXISTING BONGALOW

Roadway and/or Sidewalks:

NA

Circuitry (e.g. reaches out to other crossings, specific needs, etc.):

EXISTING PM03R(2004) MOTION ONLY

OVERLAP WITH CROSSING(WEST PATTERSON ST.) TO THE SOUTH.

Environmental:

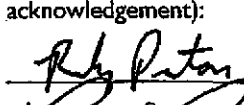
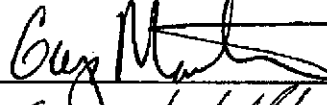

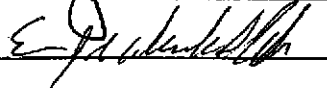
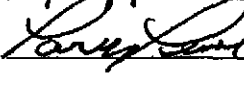
UNKNOWN

Other:

Diagnostic Team Recommendations

	Quadrants Needed
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bells / number	ONE BELL
<input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade circuitry / type	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sidelights	
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardrail Needed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Install/Replace curb	UNKNOWN
<input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow placement & offset from rail & highway	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (define)	
Comments: ODOT: "NOT OPPOSED" PUCO: "YES" (UPGRADE TO COUNTY: "YES" ORDC: "YES" <u>L + GATES</u>) CSX: "YES" CONSENSUS OF TEAM:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Install/upgrade traffic signal preemption	
<input type="checkbox"/> No improvements needed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (define)	

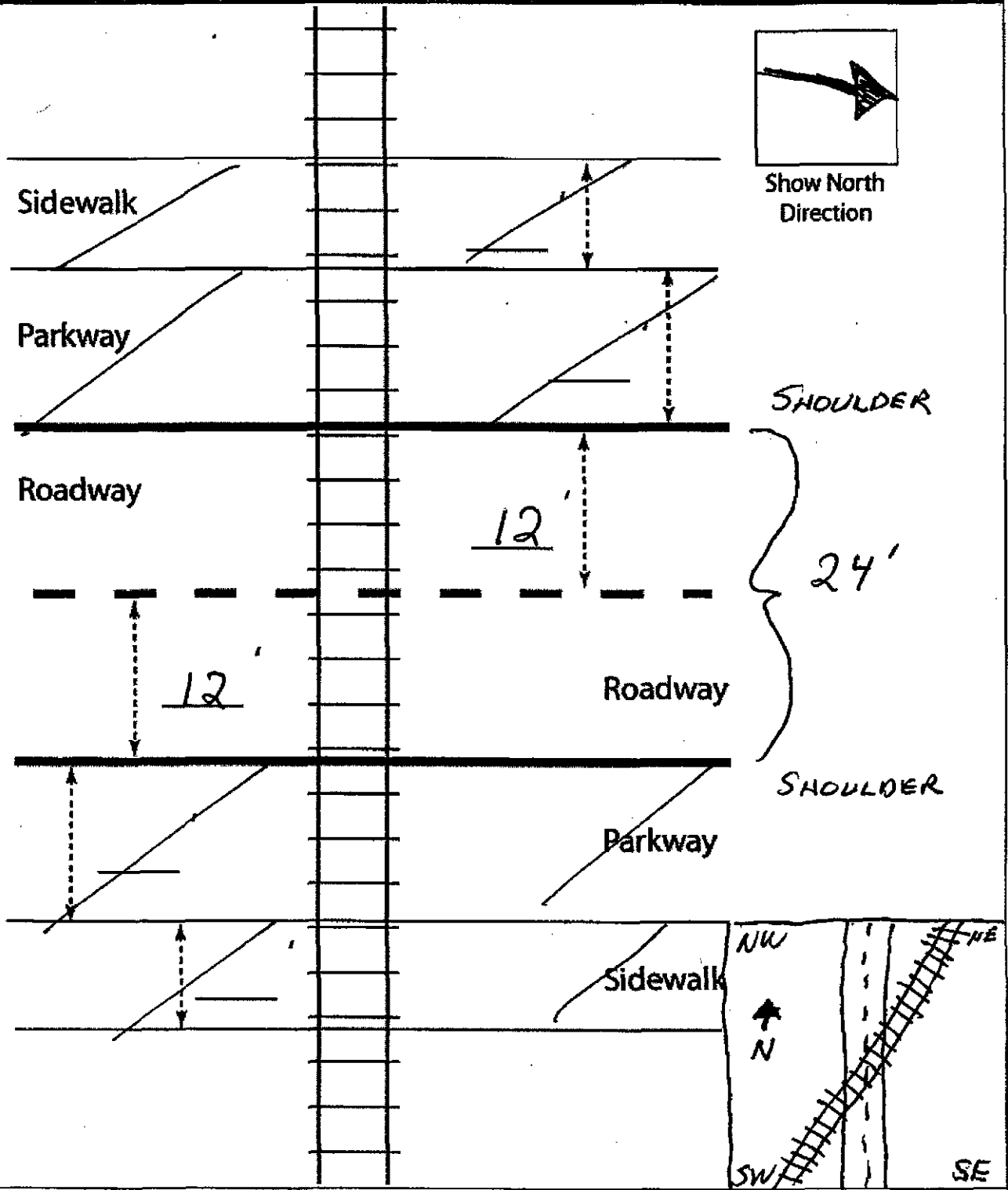
Acknowledgement of Recommendations (each entity represented at the diagnostic must have at least one signature acknowledgement):

UPGRADE: AUTOMATIC FLASHING LIGHTS
ADD GATES.

SR 68

Field Dimensions

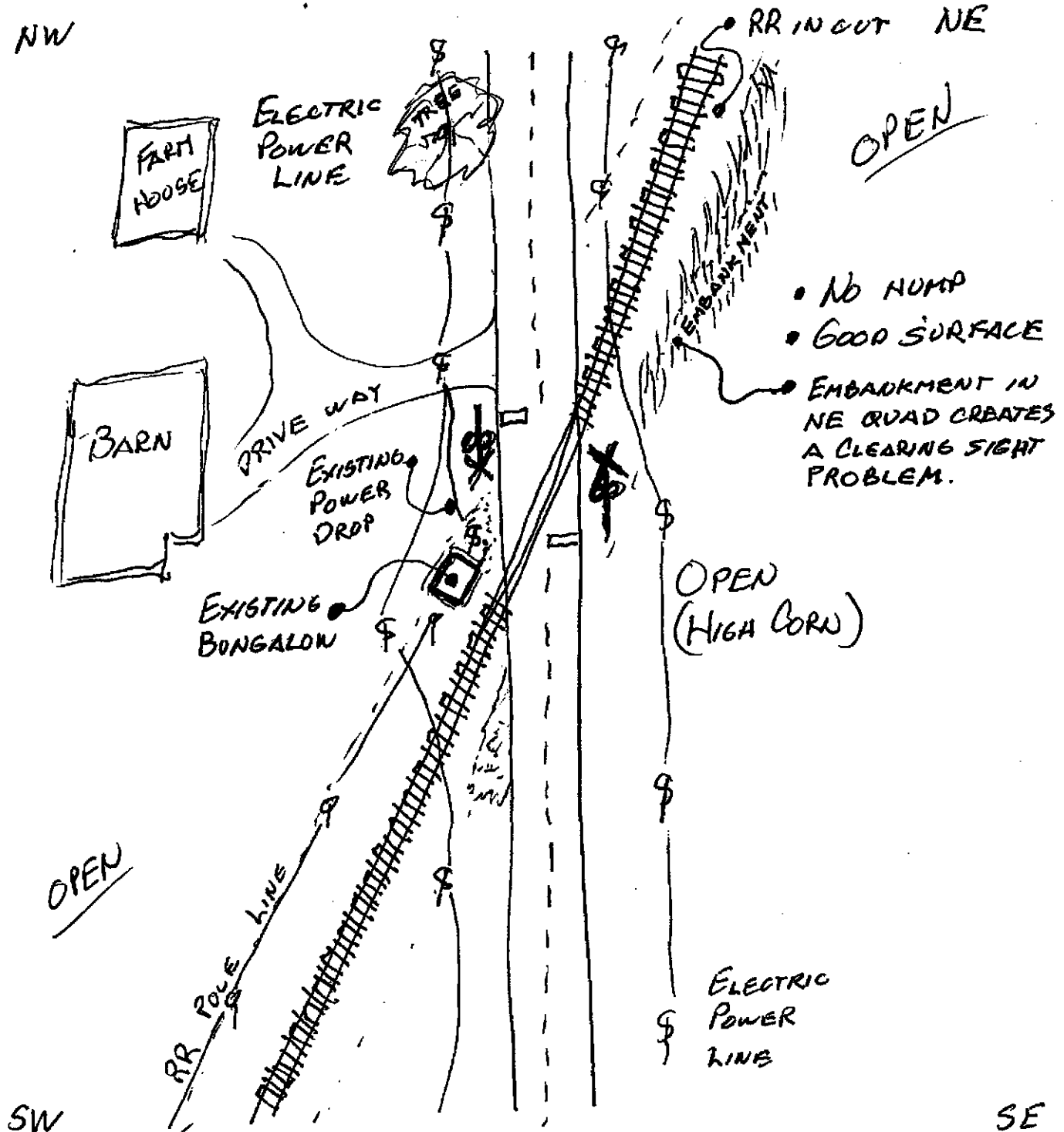


Crossing Angle ☒ 0-29° ☐ 30-59° ☐ 60-90° Measured in NE Quadrant?

Measurements by: DJD

Field Sketch

Include utilities as marked by OUPS and LHA; include ROW boundaries as indicated by railroad and LHA.



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

Sketch by: DJD

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.

HAR US 68 513748C

