

(NC)

FILE

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2014 JUL -1 AM 9:19



PUCO

# Memo

**To:** Docketing Division

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

**Re:** In the matter of the authorization of Ashland Railway to install an active grade crossing warning device in Huron County

**Date:** July 1, 2014, 2014

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) has authorized funding for Ashland Railway (ASRY) to install mast-mounted flashing lights and roadway gates at Huron County, near Willard, SR 598, DOT# 152214L. The crossing was surveyed on September 25, 2013, and was found to warrant the upgrade.

The project will be paid for with federal funds, and are actual cost. As the plan and estimate in the amount of \$127, 620.63 has been submitted and approved, staff requests a Finding & Order with completion of the project 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- 1169 -RR-FED: In the matter of the authorization of Ashland Railway to install an active grade crossing warning device in Huron 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 SMF Date Processed JUL 01 2014

Ms Cathy Stout

Ohio Rail Development Commission

1980 West Broad St, Mailstop #3140

Columbus, Oh 43223

Mr Don Cleland

Ashland Railway

PO Box 1528

Mansfield, Oh 44903

Mr Dave Baraty

ODOT District 3

906 Clark Avenue

Ashland, Ohio 44805

Ohio Power Co.

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

**TO:** George Martin, Rail Division, PUCO  
**FROM:** Cathy Stout, Manager, Safety Section, ORDC  
**BY:** Joe Reinhardt, Project Manager, ORDC  
**SUBJECT:** Huron County, State Route 598-2.07  
DOT 152214L, ASRY, PID 97155  
**DATE:** June 30, 2014

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The Ohio Rail Development Commission established a diagnostic survey at the subject location on State Route 598-2.07. The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) attended the review. The Diagnostic Team recommended the improvement of warning devices to flashing lights and roadway gates. Copies of the diagnostic review form and the plan and estimate are attached.

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 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.

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.

Attachment: Diagnostic Review  
Plan & Estimate

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

June 30, 2014

Mr. Don Cleland, ASRY  
P O Box 1528  
Mansfield, Ohio 44903

RE: Huron County, State Route 598  
DOT 152214L, PID 97155

Dear Mr. Cleland:

The bid process for the referenced project has been reviewed and is acceptable. Progress Rail 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 \$127,620.63. 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 but must be confirmed in writing within five (5) business days of the verbal approval.

This authorization is contingent upon ASRY accepting the following instructions:

1. ASRY's project foreman will furnish written notification five (5) working days prior to the date work will start at the project site to Joe Reinhardt, ORDC, email [Joe.Reinhardt@dot.state.oh.us](mailto:Joe.Reinhardt@dot.state.oh.us) and to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, email [George.martin@puc.state.oh.us](mailto:George.martin@puc.state.oh.us) 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. ASRY 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 ASRY.
3. ASRY's project foremen will notify Joe Reinhardt at 614.580.7728 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. ASRY will furnish two (2) copies of each partial bill to ORDC. Please find the enclosed Purchase Order to reference when billing.



[www.rail.ohio.gov](http://www.rail.ohio.gov)

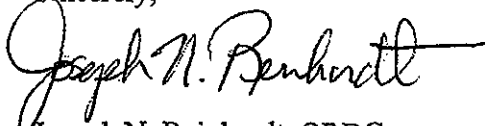
phone: 614.644.0306

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5. ASRY 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph N. Reinhardt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Joseph N. Reinhardt, ORDC  
Project Manager

C: George Martin, PUCO, Grade Crossing Planner  
ORDC (file)

### Diagnostic Review Team Survey

**Reason for Survey:** State Routes.  
(e.g. formula, accident, constituent, etc.)

**Date:** 9/25/13

#### Location Data

Street or Road Name:

Route/Road Number (i.e. Twp., Co., SR or US) **SR 598 - 2.07**

US DOT No: **152214L**

County: **HUR**

Township:

City: (In or Near)

**Willard**

Railroad Name: **Ashland Railway, Inc.**

Railroad Division: **Ohio**

Branch/Line Name:

Nearest RR Timetable Station: **Willard**

RR Milepost: **83.75**

#### On-Site Review Team

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

1. **Joe Beckhardt ORDC, 614-644-0291**
2. **Kim M. Scott Huron Co. 419-606-3826**
3. **Randy Patterson POLO 614-466-1150**
4. **Bob Taylor ASRY 419-989-0685**
5. **Don Cleland ASRY 419-522-5682**
6. **Dave Beraty D-3 419-207-7652**
7. **John A. Borsick Huron Co ODOT 419-295-0601**
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	<b>2 w/ VIB</b>
Number of Tracks Signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Inventory Tags	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
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	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 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	
Hazard Ranking	3228	Date Run: 9/11/13

**Railroad Data**

Railroad Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Total trains per day	2	
< 1 per day		
Day thru trains		
Night thru trains	2	
Daytime switching movements		
Nighttime switching movements		
Total number of tracks	1	
Number of main tracks	1	
Number of other tracks		
Maximum train speed	40	25
Typical train speed		
Amtrak		

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

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 of Ohio

Roadway Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Average daily traffic	900 (2009)	3300
Highway paved	<input 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: 20 ft.		
Number of highway lanes	2	
Urban or Rural	Rural	
Vehicle Speed: 45 MPH		
School Bus Operation: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 Amount		
Hazardous Materials Trucks: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ Amount		
Shoulders: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
Is the shoulder surfaced? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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) _____		

Quadrant <u>NW</u> 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 <u>SE</u> 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 there a 'Do not Stop on Track' sign?  No  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?  No  Yes

If yes,  
Improvement type \_\_\_\_\_ Lead Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Timeline/completion \_\_\_\_\_

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	Location of nearby schools:
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential		

**Utility Information**

Is commercial power available?  No  Yes

Utility Provider (Company Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Available Power Source AT CROSSING SITE

What other utilities are present? (add locations to sketch)

<input type="checkbox"/> Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Cable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone	<input checked="" 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)  Yes  No  Unknown

Comments:



**Potential Red Flags / Project Challenges**

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

Crossing Consolidation or Closure:

Real Estate or ROW:

Culverts / Drainage / Ballast Conditions:

Roadway and/or Sidewalks:

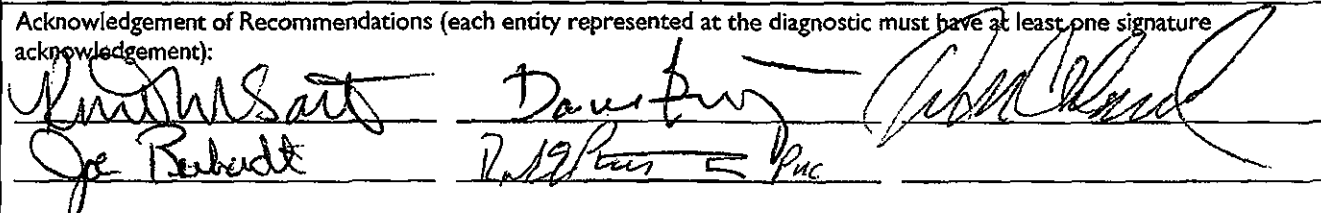
Circuitry (e.g. reaches out to other crossings, specific needs, etc.):

Environmental:

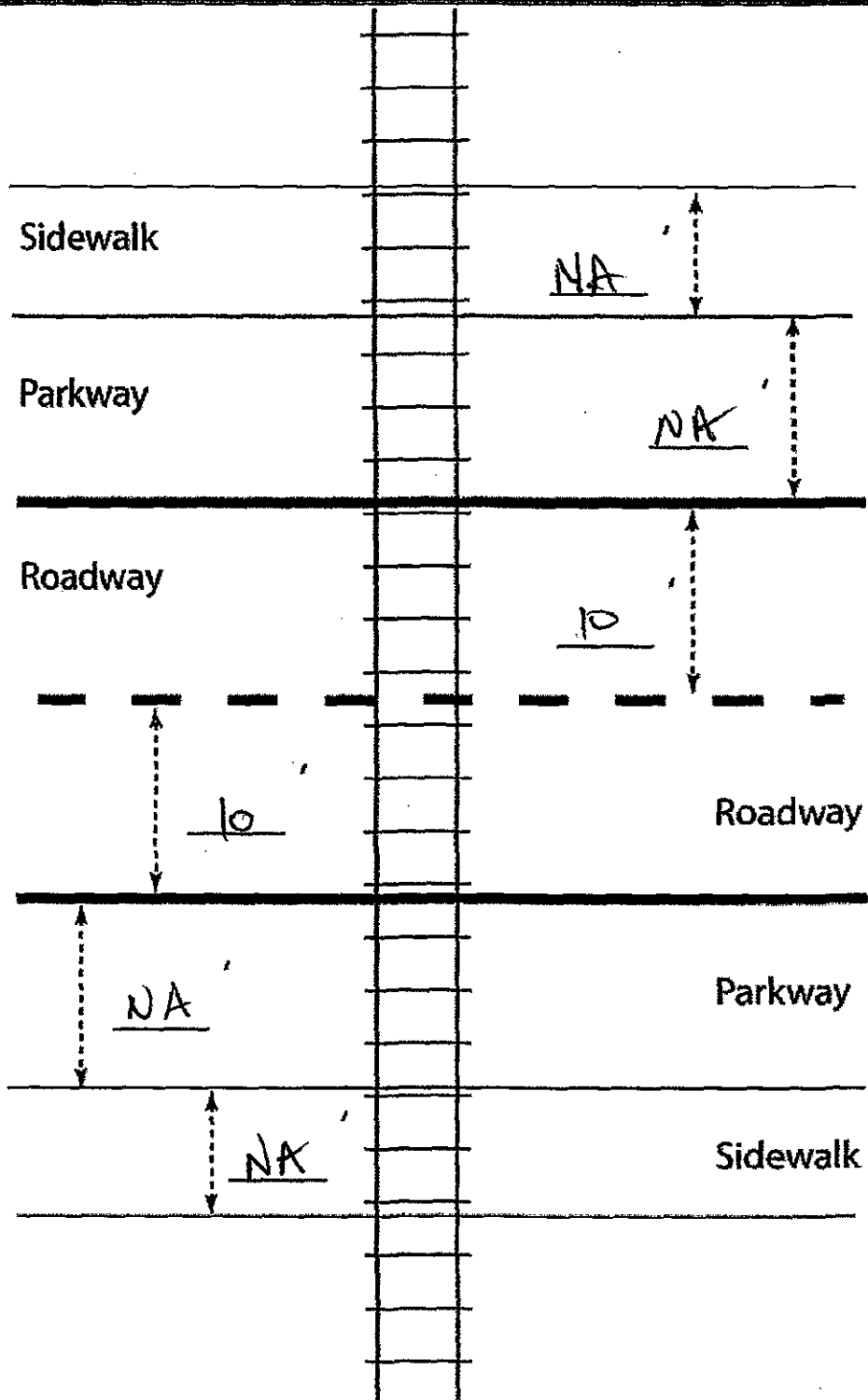
Other:

9/25/13  
JUL  
OK

### Diagnostic Team Recommendations

	Quadrants Needed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Install/upgrade active devices	
<input 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"/> Bells / number	
<input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade circuitry / type	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sidelights	
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardrail Needed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Install/Replace curb	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bungalow placement & offset from rail & highway	NW QUAD
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (define)	
Comments:	
<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): 	

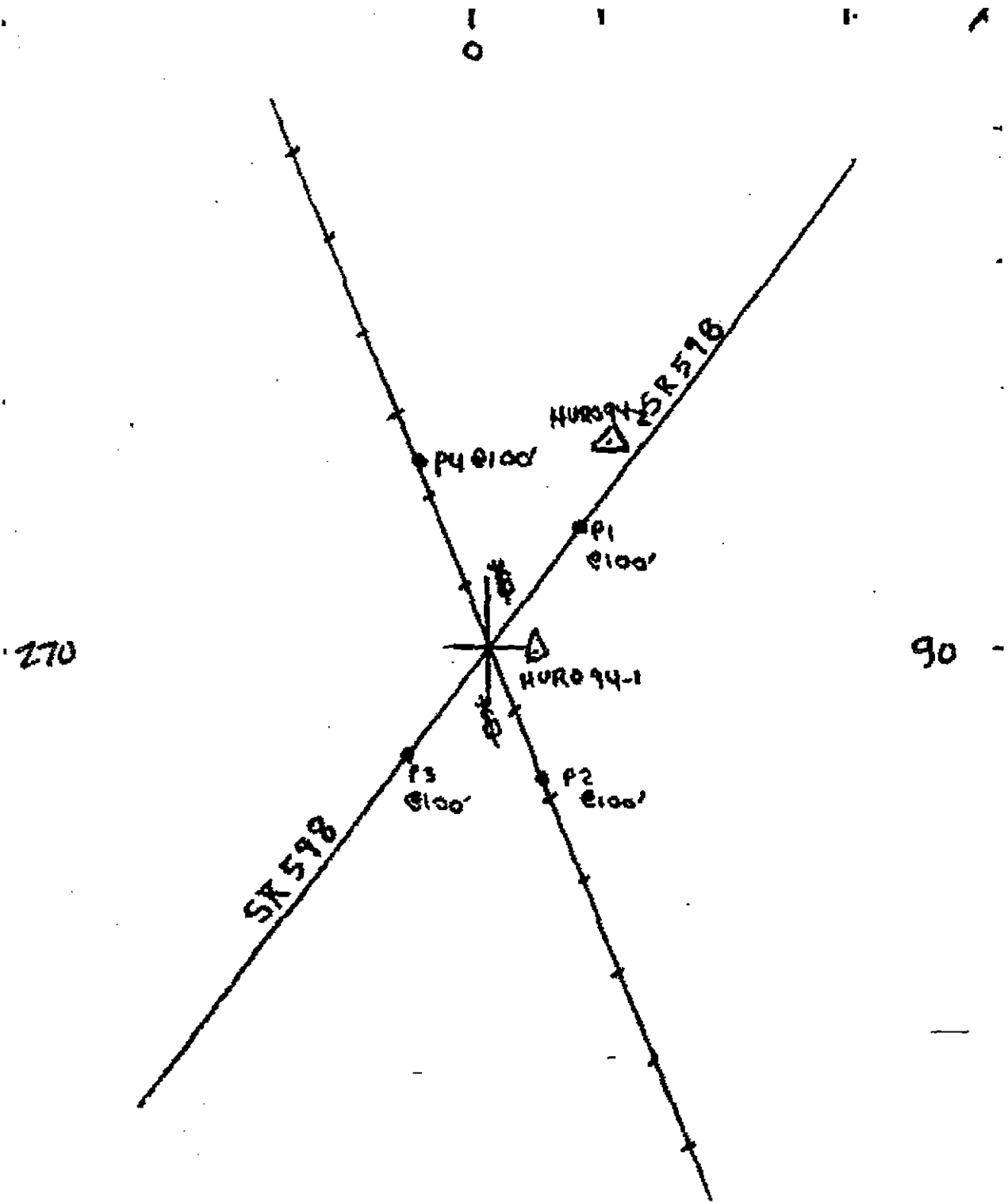
**Field Dimensions**



Show North Direction

Crossing Angle  0-29°  30-59°  60-90° Measured in \_\_\_\_\_ Quadrant?

Measurements by *[Signature]*



**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.

*Handwritten signature and date: 9/25/13*