TRANSPORT CANADA
RAIL SAFETY

Grade Crossings
&
Railway Right of Way Access Control
Regulations

TOPICS...

- ***Railway Safety Act*, Section 11**
- **Grade Crossing regulation**
- **Access Control regulation**

RAILWAY SAFETY ACT
SECTION 11

All the engineering work relating to railway works, including design, construction, evaluation or alteration, shall be done in accordance with sound engineering principles. A professional engineer shall take responsibility for the engineering work.

RAILWAYS AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES...

- **May own, manage, maintain, construct or alter grade crossings or other works that may affect railway safety**
- **Must ensure that resources are available for the implementation of railway works in accordance with sound engineering principles, safety and environment principles**

CO-EXISTENCE BETWEEN RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

Too often there is a perception that:

- **The other party is responsible**
- **The other party is taking care of safety**
- **A railway safety inspector will tell them if any improvement is required**

HOW TO ACHIEVE CO-EXISTENCE

- **Joint effort between affected parties**
- **Clear division of responsibilities**
- **Move from a corrective to a preventive process**
- **Uniform application of modern safety standards**
- **Establish a level of scrutiny, as is the case with any other infrastructure**

GRADE CROSSING REGULATION

PROVIDE a SAFE CO-EXISTENCE at GRADE CROSSINGS

- *Sharing and Understanding* of the safety variables between the railway company, the road authority and the adjacent land owner
- *Joint management* of this mutual environment

EXISTING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

General Order E-4:

- Crossing sign
- Width of crossing surface
- Maximum gradients

General Order E-6:

- Specifications for the construction and maintenance of grade crossing warning systems

KEY COMPONENTS, PROPOSED GRADE CROSSING REGULATION

- Grade crossing safety assessment
- Cessation of train whistling
- Construction and basic standards
- Clear responsibilities
- Temporary protection measures
- Discontinuance of railway service

KEY COMPONENTS , PROPOSED TECHNICAL STANDARDS-

- Design considerations
- Reflectorization of crossing signs and posts
- Preemption of traffic signals by grade crossing warning systems
- Areas without train whistling

ACCESS CONTROL REGULATION

Provide a safe co-existence between the railway track, the public and livestock.

- *Sharing and Understanding* of the safety variables between the railway company and the adjacent land owner
- *Joint management* of this mutual environment

KEY COMPONENTS, PROPOSED ACCESS CONTROL REGULATION

- Adjacent land owners & railway companies to ensure appropriate access control measures are in place, and maintained, on portions of railway right of way where access to those portions constitutes, or is likely to constitute a threat to safe railway operations.

KEY COMPONENTS, PROPOSED ACCESS CONTROL REGULATION

When aware of proposed activities that may significantly change the use of land adjoining a railway right-of-way,

- Adjacent land owners and railway authorities to jointly determine whether the proposed activity would be likely to constitute a threat to safe railway operations
- To jointly determine whether access control measures are needed or to be changed.

KEY COMPONENTS, PROPOSED ACCESS CONTROL REGULATION

Railway company that proposes a significant change to its operation,

- Conduct a detailed safety assessment
- Determine if access control measures are needed or if existing measures be changed

For more information

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Thank you