

JAN 07 1993

MUTCD Request VIII-35(Intr.) Definition
of "Two or More Trains a Day"

Date: DEC 30 1992

Associate Administrator for Safety
and System Applications
Washington, D.C. 20590

Reply to HHS-31
Attn. of:

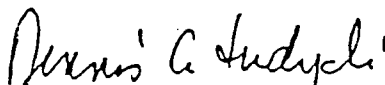
Regional Federal Highway Administrators

We have recently implemented the requirements of Section 1077 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act to authorize States and local governments, at their discretion, to install STOP or YIELD signs at any rail-highway grade crossing without automatic traffic control devices with two or more trains operating across the rail-highway grade crossing per day. This implementation was accomplished through publication on Friday, November 6, of Final Rule 92-11 in the Federal Register (57 FR 53029). This Final Rule was effective November 6. The standards implementing these requirements have been incorporated into Section 8B-9 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (Attachment 1).

Effective upon issuance of this Final Rule, States and local governments are permitted to install STOP or YIELD signs at passively protected crossings with two or more trains a day. However, at passive crossings with less than two trains a day, STOP or YIELD signs may be used only after need is established by a traffic engineering study.

Since issuance of this Final Rule, we have received several verbal requests for interpretation of what does "2 or more trains a day" mean? The statement "with two or more trains operating over the crossings each day" is interpreted to mean: an average of two or more trains operating over the crossing each day for a period of 1 year prior to the installation of the STOP or YIELD control sign.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Robert B. Helland (HHS-31), telephone 202-366-2195.


Dennis C. Judycki

Attachment