

Railway / Municipality Proximity Issues

Glossary

4. Adjoining/Connecting Infrastructure

4.1 Non-Railway Construction and Maintenance

Non-railway private or public construction and maintenance of infrastructure (by municipality/province) such as buildings, bridges, highways, port facilities, municipal roads, new housing, and commercial developments can all have an impact on nearby rail operations. There must be a good working dialogue between the rail, municipal and construction authorities and an adherence to safety standards and regulations.

4.2 Wire Crossings

Overhead and underground wires (including hydro cables) are often placed along or across rail rights-of-way. Strict regulations govern their design, placement, construction and maintenance. The issues involved include permits and standards, safety assessments, and construction and maintenance.

4.3 Pipeline Crossings

Underground pipelines are often built across/beneath the rail right-of-way. Strict regulations govern their placement, design and maintenance. Both the railway, and pipeline (or utility) company involved in the project are expected to come to agreement with respect to the project and its various terms and conditions. Pipeline occurrences such as ruptures, leaks and explosions may be the result of factors such as vibration, unstable environment, and wear-and-tear. Consequently, the pipeline company must follow strict National Energy Board and Canadian Standards Association regulations. The issues involved include permits and standards, safety assessments, and construction and maintenance.
