

## Chapter PSC 72

## REPORTING RAILROAD ACCIDENTS

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**PSC 72.01 Rules and questionnaire for reporting railroad accidents.** The following rules and form of questionnaire for the reporting of highway-grade crossing accidents are established effective September 1, 1952.

**PSC 72.02 Nontrain, train, and train-service accident reports.** (1) Upon occurrence of any accident other than at a grade crossing resulting in death, a report by telegram shall be made to the commission within 24 hours.

(2) Any nonfatal accident other than at a grade crossing which causes disability to a railroad employe of more than 24 hours in the aggregate during the 10 days (240 hours) immediately following the accident or disability to a nonemploye of more than 1 day or any such accident involving a rail movement causing in excess of \$750 damage to any nonrailroad building or other land improvement shall be reported to the commission by such means of communication as will insure delivery within 10 days.

(3) Any rail movement accident which causes in excess of \$750 damage to railroad facilities or to rolling stock shall be reported to the commission within 24 hours. The commission shall also be notified of the time and place of any hearing concerning the cause or causes of the accident.

**History:** 1-2-56; renum. from PSC 72.03; am. (2) Register, March, 1957, No. 15, eff. 4-1-57; r. and recr. (2); cr. (3), Register, December, 1960, No. 60, eff. 1-1-61; am. (2), Register, August, 1961, No. 68, eff. 9-1-61.

**PSC 72.03 Monthly reports.** (1) Monthly reports of all accidents shall be made to the commission. In making these reports, each railroad company shall be governed by the interstate commerce commission rules relating to monthly reports of railway accidents, effective February 1, 1961, except as hereinafter modified or amplified.

(1a) A verification sheet (Form V for steam railroads and L for electric railways) must be executed by the proper reporting officer at the close of each month and promptly forwarded to this commission even if no reportable accidents have occurred during the month.

(2) Reports of accidents shall be made on public service commission forms V, L, T, and F, which are similar to those required by the interstate commerce commission. Forms will be supplied by this commission upon request.

**History:** 1-2-56; renum. from PSC 72.04, Register, March, 1957, No. 15, eff. 4-1-57; am. (1), Register, August, 1961, No. 68, eff. 9-1-61.

PSC 72.04 Grade-crossing accident reports. (1) Upon the occurrence of any accident at a railroad-highway grade crossing, regardless of the extent of personal injury or property damage, a report of such accident on the form prescribed by the commission, a copy of which is attached hereto, shall be filed with the commission within 1 week, said form to be as complete as possible on the basis of the information then in possession of the reporting officer, except that if such accident results in death or serious injury, a report by telegram of the happening of such accident shall also be made to the commission by the railroad company concerned within 24 hours.

*Note:* The term "serious injury" as used herein means an injury of such nature that loss of life or limb may be reasonably expected.

(2) In the event such accident involves personal injury, death, or property damage in excess of \$750, a complete report on said form shall be filed with the commission within 30 days after the close of the month in which said accident occurred.

(3) Compliance with subsections (1) and (2), above, is required of all persons as defined by section 990.01 (26), Wis. Stats., which move, or cause to be moved, equipment by rail across or on a public way or thoroughfare over tracks owned by a railroad or tracks directly or indirectly physically connected with tracks of any common carrier by rail, whether such tracks are owned by a railroad or are owned by any other person as defined by section 990.01 (26), Wis. Stats.

**History:** 1-2-56; Renum. from 72.02, am. (2) Register, March, 1957, No. 15, eff. 4-1-57; cr. (3), Register, January, 1968, No. 145, eff. 2-1-68.

## PSC 72.05 Accident report form under section PSC 72.04.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN  
GRADE CROSSING ACCIDENT REPORT

1. Railroad\_\_\_\_\_ Crossing number\_\_\_\_\_
  2. Place of accident \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Name of street or highway number \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Date of accident \_\_\_\_\_ Hour\_\_\_\_ A.M.\_\_\_\_ P.M.
  5. Names of highway travelers involved \_\_\_\_\_  
Number killed: \_\_\_\_\_ Number injured: \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Highway traffic involved:  
Automobile\_\_\_\_\_ Truck \_\_\_\_\_ Other vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ Pedestrian\_\_\_\_\_
  7. Tr. hit vehicle or person\_\_\_\_ Vehicle hit tr.\_\_\_\_ Undetermined\_\_\_\_\_
  8. Approximate speed of approaching highway vehicle\_\_\_\_\_ MPH  
Direction moving (compass direction\_\_\_\_\_)
  9. Weather and visibility:  
Daylight\_\_\_\_\_ Dark\_\_\_\_\_ Twilight\_\_\_\_\_
  - Clear\_\_\_ Cloudy\_\_\_ Foggy\_\_\_ Raining\_\_\_ Snowing\_\_\_ Sleetng\_\_\_
  10. Condition of pavement: Wet\_\_\_ Dry\_\_\_ Covered with snow\_\_\_ Ice\_\_\_
  11. Railroad traffic involved:  
Pass Tr.\_\_\_\_ Frt. Tr.\_\_\_\_ Sw. M.\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_ Tr. speed\_\_\_\_ MPH  
Backing up\_\_\_ Moving ahead\_\_\_ Compass direction of tr. movement\_\_\_
  12. Crossing protection:  
Automatic gates\_\_\_\_ Manual gates\_\_\_\_ Position (up or down)\_\_\_\_  
Wigwags\_\_\_ Flashing lights\_\_\_ Operating\_\_\_ Rotating stop sign\_\_\_  
Crossing flagman\_\_\_ Tr. crew flagman\_\_\_ Position (side of train)\_\_\_  
Crossing bell\_\_\_\_\_ Crossing bell ringing\_\_\_\_\_
  - Stop signs\_\_\_ Reflectorized cross buck\_\_\_ Standard cross buck\_\_\_  
Advance-warning signs\_\_\_\_\_ Flood light\_\_\_\_\_
  - Other protection \_\_\_\_\_
  13. Describe obstructions to view, permanent or transitory: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Building, trees, cars near crossing, vegetation, snowbanks, etc.)
  14. Approximate angle of crossing in degrees\_\_\_\_\_
  15. Further particulars\_\_\_\_\_
- (Curved approach, steep approach grade, two-  
train type accident, etc. Use reverse side if necessary.)
- Report submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Person  
\_\_\_\_\_ Title

Date of Report

**History:** 1-2-56; am. Register, March, 1957, No. 15, eff. 4-1-57.**PSC 72.06 History:** r. Register, March, 1957, No. 15, eff. 4-1-57.