

# Rail Accident Inspection Form

*Reviewed by  
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 5-12-17  
 KH*

Docket No: TR-161105

Current Date: 4/28/2017

Railroad Owing Track: BNSF Railway

Railroad Operating on Track: BNSF Railway

FRA Investigation: Yes  No

Inspector: Robert Johnston

## I. Type of Accident

Public Crossing  Private Crossing  Trestle  Pedestrian at Crossing

Pedestrian Not at Crossing  Other (explain)

## II. Time and Location of Accident

Date 9/27/2016

Time 1817

USDOT Crossing No. 084723V

WUTC Crossing No. 2B58.89

Railroad Milepost 58.889

GPS Identifier: Lat: 48.28910

Long: -122.35730

Number of Tracks: 1

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Road name, yard name, bridge identifier: 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave NW

County: Skagit

Company responsible for track maintenance: BNSF Railway

Other railroad involved in train accident/incident: N/A

## III. Conditions Surrounding the Accident

Weather: Clear to cloudy  Fog  Rain  Snow

Road Condition: Dry  Wet  Snow  Ice

Visibility Due to Weather: Daylight  Darkness  Unknown

Adequate Sight Distance: Yes  No  N/A

Train Speed: 42

Describe: Crossing angle is approximately 25 degrees. Train approached from drivers left rear.

Train Type: Freight  Passenger  Locomotive only  Cars only  Tilt train

Remote Control: Yes  No  N/A

Haz-Mat on Train: Yes  No  N/A

Type of Haz-Mat: \_\_\_\_\_

## IV. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Fatalities

Does this section apply? Yes  No

Number of people killed 1

If a vehicle accident, number of passengers 1

Name: Jesus Torres-Aranda

Driver:  Passenger  Pedestrian

Age 56

Gender: Male  Female

Pedestrian trying to get on/off train? Yes  No

Suicide: Yes  No  Undetermined

Alcohol: Yes  No  Undetermined

Information supplied by: Snohomish Sheriff Report (page 59)

Drugs: Yes  No  Undetermined

Information supplied by: Snohomish Sheriff Report (page 59)

Names of additional fatalities:

\_\_\_\_\_

Docket No: TR-161105

**V. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Injuries**

Does this section apply? Yes  No

Number of people injured 1

If a vehicle accident, number of passengers 1

Name: Aaron Taylor

Driver:  Passenger  Pedestrian

Age 32 Gender: Male  Female

Pedestrian trying to get on/off train? Yes  No

Drugs: Yes  No  Undetermined

Alcohol: Yes  No  Undetermined

Names of additional injured persons:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**VI. Pedestrian Access**

Does this section apply? Yes  No

Obvious signs of consistent pedestrian trespass? Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Pedestrian (not at a crossing) information: Accessing public area? Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Deterrents at site, e.g. fence, signs, etc? Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous collisions at or near site? Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

**VII. Crossing History**

Does this section apply? Yes  No

Prior accidents at this crossing? Yes  No

How many? 1

Dates of prior accidents: 9/2/1993

Description of prior accidents (e.g., fatalities, injuries, property damage) Fatality

Last inspection date? \_\_\_\_\_

Defects? Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Required to attach most current inventory? Yes  No

**VIII. Attachments**

Railroad incident report? Yes  No

Local law enforcement report? Yes  No

Coroner/medical examiner report? Yes  No

Pictures? Yes  No

Other (describe):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IX. Comments**

A farm truck was struck, killing the driver and injuring the passenger at a private crossing north of Stanwood, WA. The decedent was driving in a northwest to southeast direction across BNSF Railway tracks at the crossing when he was struck by a southbound freight train. The location of the incident is in Snohomish County, approximately three miles north of downtown Stanwood on the BNSF Railway main line. Incident took place at a private crossing on 92nd Ave NW (DOT 084720A) single track, aligned generally in a north/south direction. The road is one-lane, gravel surface with a northwest-southeast alignment. The crossing is skewed, with a crossing angle of approximately 25 degrees. Both approaches to the crossing are ascending with an eight percent grade. The crossing is passively protected with cross-bucks on reflective posts, stop signs, and private crossing signs on both approaches. At least two residences are located on the private road which use this crossing for access.

There were several witnesses in addition to the train crew. The train crew members stated that they observed the truck approach the crossing at a slow speed and continue onto the crossing without stopping. The engineer sounded the train horn in a standard method then continuously when the truck failed to stop. Three witnesses in two separate cars driving on Pioneer Highway each state that they observed the incident, with the truck driving onto the crossing without stopping. One witness stated that the train horn was sounding. The other witnesses did not mention the horn. Aaron Taylor, the injured passenger in the truck, stated that the driver approached the crossing at 5-10 miles per hour, failed to stop or look before entering the crossing. He stated that he did not hear the train horn.

The Snohomish County Sheriff report indicates that the train horn was activated, as reported by the train crew. The driver of the truck failed to stop at the posted stop sign, failing to yield to the train.

