

WAC 480-62-320 Remote controlled operations. (1) Railroad companies, including logging and industrial railroad companies, must report to the Commission their intention to use remote control devices to operate trains thirty days before operations begin. Railroad companies must also report their intention to change the location of remote controlled operations. The report must include:

- (a) The name of the railroad company;
- (b) The date operations will start;
- (c) The location of the operations, specifically whether the operations are within yard limits, on a branch line, or on main line track;
- (d) A description of any change in the location of operations; and,
- (e) A list of any at-grade pedestrian or vehicular crossings, whether public or private, over which the railroad company will operate remote controlled trains. Railroad companies shall report to the Commission any plans to implement a remote control zone at least thirty days prior to implementation.

(2) Railroad companies may implement remote control zones only in locations where physical barriers exist, or the railroad company constructs physical barriers to prevent pedestrian access to the zone.

(3) Before a railroad company begins remote controlled operations at any location, the company shall install all necessary warning signs as recommended by Federal Railroad Administration Advisory 2001-01.

(4) Before a railroad company operates a remote controlled train over any at-grade public or private crossing, the railroad employee who controls the train movement directly or who is in direct contact with another employee who controls the train movement, must safely maintain a view of the crossing and along each roadway approach until the engine or train fully occupies the crossing or until the gates, if the crossing has gates, are in a fully lowered position.

(5) When operating a remote controlled train, a railroad company must provide effective and reliable protection at the point of movement at any location accessible to the general public and at any location where remote controlled operations can foul main line tracks.

(6) Each railroad company using remote control devices on the effective date of this rule must submit the report within thirty days after the effective date.