

1983 No. 410

## ROAD AND RAILWAY TRANSPORT

## Level Crossing (Slaght) Order (Northern Ireland) 1983

*Made* . . . . . 7th December 1983

*Coming into operation* . . . . . 9th February 1984

*To be laid before Parliament under paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Act 1974*

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 66 of the Transport Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(a) and now vested in it(b) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, having received from the railway undertaking an application under the said section 66, hereby makes the following Order:

*Citation, commencement and interpretation*

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Level Crossing (Slaght) Order (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 9th February 1984.

(2) In this Order “the crossing” means the Slaght Level Crossing in the townland of Slaght and County of Antrim whereby the road known as Ballee Road West is crossed by the railway between Antrim and Ballymena stations.

*Suspension of Railway Acts*

2. While this Order remains in force—

(a) section 47 of the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act 1845(c) (provision in cases where roads are crossed on a level); and

(b) any other transferred provision incorporating requirements to the same or similar effect as those contained in the enactment mentioned in paragraph (a);

shall cease to apply to the crossing.

*Provision of automatic equipment*

3. The railway undertaking shall at the crossing—

(a) provide, maintain and operate the lights and automatic and other devices, excluding traffic signs, specified in Schedule 1 and shall give notice in writing to the Department of the Environment as soon as such provision is complete;

(b) secure the provision, maintenance and operation by that Department of the traffic signs specified in Schedule 1;

(c) comply with the conditions and requirements specified in Schedule 2.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland on 7th December 1983.

(L.S.)

*J. M. Irvine*

Assistant Secretary

(a) 1967 c. 37 (N.I.)

(b) Formerly the Ministry of Development: See S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 504 Art. 4

(c) 1845 c. 20

## SCHEDULE 1

## PARTICULARS OF LIGHTS, TRAFFIC SIGNS AND OTHER DEVICES AND APPLIANCES

1. A traffic light signal as prescribed by regulation 13(4) of the Regulations shall be provided as close to the railway as practicable on the nearside of the carriageway on each road approach to the crossing. There shall be an additional traffic light signal of the same type on the offside of the road on each side of the railway so located as to be either in line with or on the railway side of the stop line mentioned in paragraph 3. The traffic light signals on each side of the railway shall be so positioned as to face outwards from the crossing towards approaching road traffic. All the signals shall be capable of directional adjustment. A lamp shall be provided on each railway approach to the crossing which, when lit, shows an intermittent white light which shall indicate to drivers of trains that at least one of the intermittent red lights on each side of the railway is showing and that the main power supply has not failed.

2. An audible warning device shall be provided on or adjacent to each nearside traffic light signal.

3. A reflectorised stop line of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 1001 in the Regulations shall be provided across the nearside of the carriageway on each side of the railway not more than 2 metres before the nearside traffic light signal.

4. A reflectorised pedestrian stop line of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 1003.2 in the Regulations shall be provided across the offside of the carriageway and any made-up ground on both sides of the carriageway on both sides of the railway. The line shall be not less than 1 metre before the traffic light signals on the same side of the carriageway and not nearer than 2 metres to the running edge of the nearest rail and shall be as nearly as possible at right angles to the centre line of the carriageway.

5. Where the road passes over the crossing reflectorised edge of carriageway road markings of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 1011 in the Regulations shall be provided along each edge of any made-up ground along each edge of the carriageway.

6. The centre line of the carriageway shall be marked on the crossing between the stop lines mentioned above and for a distance of 15 metres on each side of the railway measured along the centre of the carriageway from the stop lines with a reflectorised warning line road marking of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 1004 in the Regulations.

7. A traffic sign of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 542.1 in the Regulations shall be provided on each side of the road on each side of the railway mounted immediately above each traffic light signal. Each of the signs shall face outwards from the crossing towards approaching road traffic.

8. A traffic sign of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 863 in the Regulations shall be provided on each side of the road on each side of the railway mounted below or adjacent to the traffic light signal and shall face outwards from the crossing towards approaching road traffic.

9. A traffic sign of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 828.1 in the Regulations shall be provided on each side of the railway not less than 1 metre on the railway side of the nearside traffic light signal and shall face drivers of vehicles halted at the stop line.

10. A traffic sign of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 828.2 in the Regulations shall be provided on or adjacent to the offside traffic light signal on each side of the railway angled to face drivers of vehicles halted at the stop line.

11. A traffic sign of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 542.2 in the Regulations shall be provided on or adjacent to each traffic light signal post on both sides of the railway and shall face outwards from the crossing towards approaching road traffic.

12. A traffic sign of the size, colour and type shown in Diagram 862 (small) in the Regulations shall be provided mounted below each nearside traffic light signal and shall face outwards from the crossing towards approaching road traffic.

13. An advance warning board of standard railway design shall be provided on each railway approach to the crossing and shall be provided with Class 1 retro-reflecting material or shall be self-illuminated.

14. A standard level crossing speed restriction board for 60 miles per hour shall be provided on the up railway approach to the crossing approximately 500 metres before the crossing and a

similar board for 70 miles per hour shall be provided on the down railway approach to the crossing approximately 600 metres before the crossing. The boards shall be provided with Class 1 retro-reflecting material or shall be self-illuminated.

15. In this Schedule—

“nearside” means the left-hand side of the road or carriageway in relation to a person approaching the crossing along the road or carriageway;

“offside” means the right-hand side of the road or carriageway in relation to any such person;

“the Regulations” means the Traffic Signs Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(a).

## SCHEDULE 2

## CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO BE COMPLIED WITH BY THE RAILWAY UNDERTAKING

1. The carriageway shall be approximately 5.5 metres wide at the crossing.
2. The ground at the two edges of the carriageway over the crossing shall be made up to the level of the carriageway for a distance of not less than 1 metre beyond each edge.
3. Cattle-cum-trespass guards of standard railway design shall be provided adjacent to the ground which is made-up to the level of the carriageway. The guards shall extend the full distance between the fence on each side of the railway.
4. The surface of the carriageway over the crossing shall be maintained in good and even condition.
5. The crossing shall be illuminated during the hours of darkness to such a standard that the train driver can ascertain in conditions of normal visibility that the crossing is clear before proceeding over it.
6. Trains travelling in the up direction shall not exceed 60 miles per hour from a point approximately 500 metres before the crossing until the front of the train has passed over the crossing.
7. Trains travelling in the down direction shall not exceed 70 miles per hour from a point approximately 600 metres before the crossing until the front of the train has passed over the crossing.
8. Trains travelling in either direction shall not proceed over the crossing until the white light of the lamp mentioned in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 shows. If the white light fails to show, drivers shall bring their trains to a stand short of the crossing and then proceed with caution.
9. The traffic light signals and the audible warning devices mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 1 shall be activated automatically by the approach of a train, as described in paragraph 10.
10. When the train either occupies a track circuit or operates a treadle the traffic light signals and the audible warning devices shall begin to operate in accordance with the following sequence:—
  - (a) The amber lights shall show and the audible warning shall begin. The lights shall show for approximately 3 seconds.
  - (b) Immediately the amber lights are extinguished the intermittent red lights shall begin to show.
  - (c) Not less than 27 seconds shall elapse between the time when the amber lights first show and the time when the train reaches the crossing.
  - (d) The intermittent red lights shall continue to show and the audible warning devices shall continue to sound until the train has passed clear of the crossing, when both shall stop unless the conditions in paragraph 11 apply.
- 11.—(1) Should the equipment at the crossing be activated by another train so that less than 10 seconds, reckoned from the time one train clears the crossing, can elapse before the arrangements detailed in paragraph 10 are due to recommence, the arrangements in sub-paragraph (2) shall apply.
  - (2) The intermittent red lights and the audible warning devices shall continue to operate and as soon as one train arrives at the crossing the sign mentioned in paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 shall begin to flash and the warbling rate of the audible warning devices shall be increased. The intermittent red lights, the audible warning devices and the sign mentioned in paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 shall cease to operate when all trains which have activated the equipment at the crossing under the conditions of this paragraph have passed clear of the crossing.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order.)*

This Order provides for an automatic open crossing in place of manually operated crossing gates at the Slaght railway level crossing. It also provides for the maintenance of that level crossing.