
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2022 No. 651

**The Network Rail (Essex and Others
Level Crossing Reduction) Order 2022**

PART 2

CROSSINGS

Supplemental powers

Discharge of water

16.—(1) Network Rail may use any watercourse or any public sewer or drain for the drainage of water in connection with the construction, operation or maintenance of the authorised works and for that purpose may lay down, take up and alter pipes and may, on any land within the Order limits, make openings into, and connections with, the watercourse, public sewer or drain.

(2) Any dispute arising from the making of connections to or the use of a public sewer or drain by Network Rail under paragraph (1) is to be determined as if it were a dispute under section 106 (right to communicate with public sewers) of the Water Industry Act 1991(1).

(3) Network Rail must not discharge any water into any watercourse, public sewer or drain except with the consent of the person to whom it belongs; and such consent may be given subject to such terms and conditions as that person may reasonably impose, but must not be unreasonably withheld.

(4) Network Rail must not make any opening into any public sewer or drain except—

(a) in accordance with plans approved by the person to whom the sewer or drain belongs, but such approval must not be unreasonably withheld; and

(b) where that person has been given the opportunity to supervise the making of the opening.

(5) Network Rail must not, in the exercise of the powers conferred by this article, damage or interfere with the bed or banks of any watercourse forming part of a main river.

(6) Network Rail must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that any water discharged into a watercourse or public sewer or drain under the powers conferred by this article is as free as may be practicable from gravel, soil or other solid substance, oil or matter in suspension.

(7) Nothing in this article overrides the requirement for an environmental permit under regulation 12(1)(b) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016(2).

(8) If a person who receives an application for consent or approval fails to notify Network Rail of a decision within 28 days of receiving an application for consent under paragraph (3) or approval under paragraph (4)(a) that person is deemed to have granted consent or given approval, as the case may be.

(1) 1991 c. 56. Section 106 was amended by sections 35(1) and (8) and 43(2) of, and Schedule 2 to, the Competition and Service (Utilities) Act 1992 (c. 43), sections 36(2) and 99 of the Water Act 2003 (c. 37) and paragraph 16(1) of Schedule 3 to the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (c. 29).

(2) S.I. 2016/1154.

(9) In this article—

- (a) “public sewer or drain” means a sewer or drain which belongs to a sewerage undertaker, the Environment Agency, an internal drainage board, or a local authority; and
- (b) other expressions, excluding watercourse, used both in this article and in the Water Resources Act 1991(3) have the same meaning as in that Act.

Power to survey and investigate land

17.—(1) Network Rail may for the purposes of this Order—

- (a) survey or investigate any land shown within the Order limits;
- (b) without limitation on the scope of sub-paragraph (a), make trial holes in such positions on the land as Network Rail thinks fit to investigate the nature of the surface layer and subsoil and remove soil samples;
- (c) without limitation on the scope of sub-paragraph (a), carry out ecological or archaeological investigations on such land;
- (d) place on, leave on and remove from the land apparatus for use in connection with the survey and investigation of land and making of trial holes; and
- (e) enter on the land for the purpose of exercising the powers conferred by sub-paragraphs (a) to (d).

(2) No land may be entered or equipment placed or left on or removed from the land under paragraph (1) unless at least 7 days’ notice has been served on every owner and occupier of the land.

(3) Notice given in accordance with paragraph (2) must include—

- (a) a statement of the recipient’s rights under paragraph (14); and
- (b) a copy of any warrant issued under paragraph (7).

(4) If Network Rail proposes to do any of the following, the notice must include details of what is proposed—

- (a) searching, boring or excavating;
- (b) leaving apparatus on the land;
- (c) taking samples; and
- (d) an aerial survey.

(5) If Network Rail obtains a warrant after giving notice in accordance with paragraph (2) it must give a copy of the warrant to whom it gave that notice.

(6) Any person entering land under this article on behalf of Network Rail—

- (a) must, if so required, before or after entering the land produce written evidence of authority to do so including any warrant issued under paragraph (7);
- (b) may not use force unless a justice of the peace has issued a warrant under paragraph (7) authorising the person to do so;
- (c) may take onto the land such vehicles and equipment as are necessary to carry out the survey or investigation or to make the trial holes;
- (d) may only enter and survey at a reasonable time; and
- (e) must, if the land is unoccupied or the occupier is absent from the land when the person enters it, leave it secure against trespassers as when the person entered it.

(7) A justice of the peace may issue a warrant authorising a person to use force in the exercise of the power conferred by this article if satisfied—

- (a) that another person has prevented or is likely to prevent the exercise of that power; and
- (b) that it is reasonable to use force in the exercise of that power.

(8) The force that may be authorised by the warrant is limited to that which is reasonably necessary.

(9) A warrant authorising the person to use force must specify the number of occasions on which Network Rail can rely on the warrant when entering and surveying or valuing land.

(10) The number specified must be the number which the justice of the peace considers appropriate to achieve the purpose for which the entry and survey or valuation are required.

(11) Any evidence in proceedings for a warrant under this article must be given on oath.

(12) No trial holes are to be made under this article—

- (a) in a carriageway or footway without the consent of the highway authority; or
- (b) in a private street without the consent of the street authority,

but such consent must not be unreasonably withheld.

(13) Network Rail must compensate the owners and occupiers of the land for any loss or damage arising by reason of the exercise of the powers conferred by this article, such compensation to be determined, in case of dispute, as if it were a dispute under Part 1 of the 1961 Act.

(14) If either a highway authority or a street authority which receives an application for consent fails to notify Network Rail of its decision within 28 days of receiving the application for consent—

- (a) under paragraph (12)(a) in the case of a highway authority; or
- (b) under paragraph (12)(b) in the case of a street authority,

that authority is deemed to have granted consent.