

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

RAIL SAFETY SECTION

SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Investigate highway-rail grade crossing collisions and other rail related accidents & incidents that occur in Illinois; coordinate efforts with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).
- Management of Grade Crossing Protection Fund safety projects (\$39 million annually) and engineering oversight of all improvements & modifications to the State's 10,220 public highway-rail crossings.
- Engineering oversight of all highway traffic signal systems interconnected with railroad warning devices.
- Manage Illinois' Operation Lifesaver rail safety public education program that reaches communities and schools statewide.
- Conduct inspections of railroad track in Illinois to identify defects that can cause derailments. Task assignments are coordinated with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).
- Conduct inspections of railroad hazardous material shipments throughout the State, including radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel. Task assignments are coordinated with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).
- Maintain a comprehensive and current highway-rail crossing database and train/vehicle collision tracking system.
- Conduct scheduled and prompted on-site inspections of crossing warning systems throughout Illinois to evaluate maintenance and repair efforts and operating conditions.
- Investigate complaints (citizen, highway agency, public official, etc.) concerning highway-rail grade crossings and other rail safety issues.

