

Swedish Accident Investigation Authority
Box 125 38
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Response to SHK recommendations in the investigation report concerning a level crossing accident involving train 614 and a truck between Hägernäs and Rydbo, Stockholm County, on 9 February 2012

SHK's recommendations and the Swedish Transport Agency's response:

The Swedish Transport Agency is recommended to:

- *when performing supervision and authorisation, control that infrastructure managers through their safety management systems meet their obligations to manage the risks that arise e.g. by giving attention to changing conditions at level crossings through systematic reviews of decisions on protection levels. (RJ 2014:04 R1).*

The fundamental purpose of the supervision exercised by the Swedish Transport Agency over the infrastructure managers is to control that the operators can manage the risks that may arise from their operations. Regarding protection levels at level crossings, the Swedish Transport Agency is observing SHK's recommendations by commencing supervision in autumn 2014 of how the Swedish Transport Administration and the Traffic Administration in Stockholm County Council manage changing conditions, such as traffic flows, at level crossings. The Swedish Transport Agency is also improving its control of the other infrastructure managers' systematic reviews of changing conditions, such as traffic flows, at level crossings by introducing questions within this area in the checklists used in authorisation matters and supervision.

- *in consultation with the Swedish Transport Administration and the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, consider the need for regulations or guidelines for the design of private roads where they are crossing railways. (RJ 2014:04 R2).*

Since 1 July 2014, the Swedish Transport Agency (TS) has had an extended authority in connection with amendment (SFS 2014:225) of the Planning and Building Ordinance (2011:338), hereinafter referred to as PBO. This authority means that “following consultation with Boverket (the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning), the Swedish Transport Agency may issue the regulations required for the application of Chapter 3, Sections 7-10 and 13 with reference to railways, metros, tramways, roads and streets and the facilities associated with these”.

The authority covers:

- roads (streets), including associated facilities (e.g., bridges, tunnels and road equipment)
- railways, tramways and metro, including associated facilities (e.g., bridges, tunnels and other facilities).

In concrete terms, this means that the following characteristics required by Chapter 3 of PBO may be regulated by TS:

Section 7 Load-bearing capacity, stability and durability

Section 8 Safety in the event of fire

Section 9 Protection regarding hygiene, health and environment

Section 10 Safety in use

Section 13 Protection against noise

The recommendation based on SHK’s investigation to address the need for tightened provisions on the design of roads at level crossings will be managed within the scope of this extensive regulatory work. According to the current schedule, it is assessed that a new regulation within this area will be available in summer 2017.

This matter has been decided by Birgitta Hermansson. Per Almqvist participated in the final handling of the matter.

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Birgitta Hermansson
Road and Rail Director