

Section	Violation	Willful violation
234.239 Tagging of wires and interference of wires or tags with signal apparatus	1,000	2,000
234.241 Protection of insulated wire; splice in underground wire	1,000	2,000
234.243 Wire on pole line and aerial cable	1,000	2,000
234.245 Signs	1,000	2,000
Inspections and Tests:		
234.247 Purpose of inspections and tests; removal from service of relay or device failing to meet test requirements	2,500	5,000
234.249 Ground tests	2,500	5,000
234.251 Standby power	5,000	7,500
234.253 Flashing light units and lamp voltage	1,000	2,000
234.255 Gate arm and gate mechanism	1,000	2,000
234.257 Warning system operation	2,500	5,000
234.259 Warning time	1,000	2,000
234.261 Highway traffic signal pre-emption	1,000	2,000
234.263 Relays	1,000	2,000
234.265 Timing relays and timing devices	1,000	2,000
234.267 Insulation resistance tests, wires in trunking and cables	2,500	5,000
234.269 Cut-out circuits	1,000	2,000
234.271 Insulated rail joints, bond wires, and track connections	2,500	5,000
234.273 Results of tests	1,000	2,000
234.275 Processor-Based Systems	\$5,000	\$7,500

¹ A penalty may be assessed against an individual only for a willful violation. The Administrator reserves the right to assess a penalty of up to \$27,000 for any violation where circumstances warrant. See 49 CFR Part 209, Appendix A.

[61 FR 31806, June 20, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 11623, Mar. 10, 1998; 69 FR 30595, May 28, 2004; 70 FR 11094, Mar. 7, 2005]

APPENDIX B TO PART 234—ALTERNATE METHODS OF PROTECTION UNDER 49 CFR 234.105(C), 234.106, AND 234.107(C)

[This is a summary—see body of text for complete requirements]

	Flagger for each direction of traffic	Police officer present	Flagger present, but not one for each direction of traffic	No flagger/no police
False Activation	Normal Speed	Normal Speed	Proceed with caution—maximum speed of 15 mph.	Proceed with caution—maximum speed of 15 mph.
Partial Activation* ...	Normal Speed	Normal Speed	Proceed with caution—maximum speed of 15 mph.	Proceed with caution—maximum speed of 15 mph.
Activation Failure**	Normal Speed	Normal Speed	Proceed with caution—maximum speed of 15 mph.	Stop: Crewmember flag traffic and reboard.

*Partial activation—full warning not given.
 Non-gated crossing with one pair of lights designed to flash alternatively, one light does not work (and back-lights from other side not visible).

Gated crossing—gate arm not horizontal; or any portion of a gate arm is missing if that portion had held a gate arm flashing light.

**Activation failure includes—if more than 50% of the flashing lights on any approach lane not functioning; or if an approach lane has two or more pairs of flashing lights, there is not at least one pair operating as intended.

PART 235—INSTRUCTIONS GOVERNING APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL OF A DISCONTINUANCE OR MATERIAL MODIFICATION OF A SIGNAL SYSTEM OR RELIEF FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF PART 236

- Sec.
- 235.1 Scope.
- 235.3 Application.
- 235.5 Changes requiring filing of application.
- 235.7 Changes not requiring filing of application.
- 235.8 Relief from the requirements of part 236 of this title.

- 235.9 Civil penalty.
- 235.10 Contents of application.
- 235.12 Additional required information-prints.
- 235.13 Filing procedure.
- 235.14 Notice.
- 235.20 Protests.

APPENDIX A TO PART 235—SCHEDULE OF CIVIL PENALTIES

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 20103, 20107; 28 U.S.C. 2461, note; and 49 CFR 1.49.

SOURCE: 49 FR 3380, Jan. 26, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 235.1 Scope.

This part prescribes application for approval to discontinue or materially

modify block signal systems, interlockings, traffic control systems, automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal systems, or other similar appliances, devices, methods, or systems, and provides for relief from part 236 of this title.

§ 235.3 Application.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, this part applies to railroads that operate on standard gage track which is part of the general railroad system of transportation.

(b) This part does not apply to rail rapid transit operations conducted over track that is used exclusively for that purpose and that is not part of the general system of railroad transportation.

§ 235.5 Changes requiring filing of application.

(a) Except as provided in § 235.7, applications shall be filed to cover the following:

(1) The discontinuance of a block signal system, interlocking, traffic control system, automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system or other similar appliance or device;

(2) The decrease of the limits of a block signal system, interlocking, traffic control system, automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system; or

(3) The modification of a block signal system, interlocking, traffic control system, automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system.

(b) [Reserved]

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2130-0042)

§ 235.7 Changes not requiring filing of application.

(a) It is not necessary to file an application for approval of the following discontinuances:

(1) Removal of block signal system, interlocking, traffic control system, automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system from track approved for abandonment by formal proceeding;

(2) Removal of devices and associated signals used to provide protection against unusual contingencies such as landslide, burned bridge, high water, high and wide load, or tunnel protec-

tion when the unusual contingency no longer exists;

(3) Removal of an interlocking where a drawbridge has been permanently closed by the formal approval of another government agency; or

(4) Removal from service not to exceed six months of block signal system, interlocking, or traffic control system necessitated by catastrophic occurrence such as derailment, flood, fire, or hurricane.

(b) When the resultant arrangement will comply with part 236 of this title, it is not necessary to file for approval to decrease the limits of a system as follows:

(1) Decrease of the limits of an interlocking when interlocked switches, derrails, or movable-point frogs are not involved;

(2) Removal of electric or mechanical lock from hand-operated switch in automatic block signal or traffic control territory where train speed over switch does not exceed 20 miles per hour; or

(3) Removal of electric or mechanical lock from hand-operated switch in automatic block signal or traffic control territory where trains are not permitted to clear the main track at such switch.

(c) When the resultant arrangement will comply with part 236 of this title, it is not necessary to file an application for approval of the following modifications:

(1) A modification that is required to comply with an order of the Federal Railroad Administration or any section of part 236 of this title;

(2) The installation of an automatic block signal or a traffic control system to replace manual block or non-signal territory;

(3) The installation of a traffic control system to replace a roadway automatic block signal system (discontinuance of an automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system is not permitted without FRA approval);

(4) The installation of an automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system in an existing automatic block or traffic control system;

(5) The installation of a continuous inductive automatic train stop system

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to replace an existing intermittent inductive automatic train stop system;

(6) The installation of a continuous inductive automatic train stop system to supplement an existing automatic cab signal system;

(7) The installation of an automatic train control system to replace an existing automatic train stop system or to supplement an existing automatic cab signal system;

(8) The installation of an interlocking to replace existing stop signs, gates, or pipe-connected derails protecting a railroad crossing at grade;

(9) The installation of all relay type locking to replace existing mechanical or electromechanical locking of an interlocking;

(10) The installation of an additional controlled point in existing traffic control system;

(11) The installation of an interlocking in an existing block signal system;

(12) The conversion of a hand-operated switch, a hand-operated switch locked either electrically or mechanically, or a spring switch to a power-operated switch;

(13) The conversion of a spring switch to a hand-operated switch, or to a hand-operated switch locked either electrically or mechanically;

(14) The removal or relocation of signals associated with a spring switch converted to hand operation;

(15) The installation, relocation, or removal of signals to specifically provide adequate stopping distance;

(16) The change of aspects;

(17) The relocation of a signal to improve preview of signal aspect visibility;

(18) To replace a signal with a signal of another type;

(19) To change an approach signal to operative or inoperative signal, or remove an approach signal not required by § 236.310 of this title;

(20) The change in location of a machine from which an interlocking or traffic control system is controlled;

(21) The closing of a manual block station or the change in hours during which a manual block station is attended;

(22) The change in hours during which a manual interlocking is at-

tended provided the interlocking operates for all routes over which train movements are permitted;

(23) The installation of devices used to provide protection against unusual contingencies such as landslide, burned bridges, high water, high and wide loads, or dragging equipment;

(24) The installation, relocation, or removal of signals, interlocked switches, derails, movable-point frogs, or electric locks in an existing system directly associated with:

(i) The installation of new track;

(ii) The elimination of existing track other than a second main track;

(iii) The extension or shortening of a passing siding;

(iv) Elimination of second main track where signal system mn retained main track is arranged to provide both opposing and following protection for train movements provided second main track is physically removed; or

(v) A line relocation; or

(vi) The conversion of pole line circuits to electronic (coded) track circuits provided that the railroad gives notice and a profile plan of the change to the FRA regional office having jurisdiction over that territory at least 60 days in advance of the change. The railroad must also at the same time provide a copy of the notice and profile plan to representatives of employees responsible for maintenance, inspection and testing of the signal system under 49 CFR Part 236. The signal system modification will be deemed acceptable, unless within 60 days, the Regional Administrator stays action by written notice to the railroad and refers the issue to the Railroad Safety Board for decision.

(25) The temporary or permanent arrangement of existing systems necessitated by highway rail separation construction. Temporary arrangements shall be removed within six months following completion of construction.

[49 FR 3380, Jan. 26, 1984, as amended at 61 FR 33873, July 1, 1996]

§ 235.8 Relief from the requirements of part 236 of this title.

Relief from the requirements of the rules, standards and instructions contained in part 236 of this title will be granted upon an adequate showing by

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an individual carrier. Relief heretofore granted to any carrier shall constitute relief to the same extent as relief granted under the requirements of this part.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2130-0043)

§ 235.9 Civil penalty.

Any person (an entity of any type covered under 1 U.S.C. 1, including but not limited to the following: a railroad; a manager, supervisor, official, or other employee or agent of a railroad; any owner, manufacturer, lessor, or lessee of railroad equipment, track, or facilities; any independent contractor providing goods or services to a railroad; and any employee of such owner, manufacturer, lessor, lessee, or independent contractor) who violates any requirement of this part or causes the violation of any such requirement is subject to a civil penalty of at least \$550 and not more than \$11,000 per violation, except that: Penalties may be assessed against individuals only for willful violations, and, where a grossly negligent violation or a pattern of repeated violations has created an imminent hazard of death or injury to persons, or has caused death or injury, a penalty not to exceed \$27,000 per violation may be assessed. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. See appendix A to this part for a statement of agency civil penalty policy.

[63 FR 11623, Mar. 10, 1998, as amended at 69 FR 30595, May 28, 2004]

§ 235.10 Contents of applications.

(a) The application may be submitted by letter and shall contain the following information:

- (1) The corporate name of each applicant;
- (2) The manner in which applicant is involved;
- (3) The location of the project, giving name of operating division and nearest station;
- (4) The track or tracks involved;
- (5) A complete description of proposed changes as they would affect the existing facilities or of the section from which relief is sought;

(6) The reason for proposed changes or justification for relief from the requirements;

(7) The approximate dates of beginning and completion of project;

(8) Changes in operating practices, temporary or permanent;

(9) Whether safety of operation will be affected, and if so, how; and

(10) Whether proposed changes will conform to the Federal Railroad Administration's Rules, Standards and Instructions (part 236 of this title).

(b) [Reserved]

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2130-0042)

§ 235.12 Additional required information-prints.

(a) A print or prints, size 8 inches by 10½ inches, or 8½ inches by 11 inches, or folded to 8 inches by 10½ inches or to 8½ inches by 11 inches, shall be furnished with each application.

(b) The print or prints shall be to scale or by indicated dimensions, using Association of American Railroads graphic symbols.

(c) The following information shall be shown on the print or prints:

- (1) Present and proposed arrangement of tracks and signal facilities;
- (2) Name of carrier;
- (3) Operating division;
- (4) Place and State; and
- (5) Timetable directions of movements.

(d) If stopping distances are involved, the following information shall also be shown:

- (1) Curvature and grade;
- (2) Maximum authorized speeds of trains; and
- (3) Length of signal control circuits for each signal indication displayed.

(e) The following color scheme is suggested on prints:

- (1) Installations, relocations, and added signal aspects should be colored, preferably in yellow;
- (2) Removals, discontinuances, and abandonments should be colored, preferably in red; and
- (3) Existing facilities not pertinent to change proposed in application should be shown uncolored.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2130-0042)

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§ 235.13 Filing procedure.

(a) Applications or requests for reconsideration of an application shall be submitted by an authorized officer of the carrier.

(b) The original and two copies of each application with supporting papers should be filed.

(c) The application and correspondence in reference thereto should be addressed to the Associate Administrator for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Washington, DC 20590.

(d) A separate application shall be filed for each project.

(e) At a joint facility where changes are proposed in the automatic block signal system, interlocking, traffic control system, automatic train stop, train control, or cab signal system on the tracks of more than one carrier, or if more than one carrier will be affected by the proposed changes or relief sought, a joint application signed by all carriers affected shall be filed.

(f) Where only one carrier at a joint facility is affected by the discontinuance or modification of the installation or relief sought, it shall be responsible for filing the application. It shall also certify that the other joint carriers have been notified of the filing of its application.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2130-0042)

§ 235.14 Notice.

The FRA will publish notice of the filing of an application or a request for reconsideration of an application in the

FEDERAL REGISTER and a copy of such notice will be available at the Department of Transportation Central Docket Management System, Nassif Building, Room P1-401, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, and on the Docket Management System's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

[64 FR 70195, Dec. 16, 1999]

§ 235.20 Protests.

(a) A protest against the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which it is made, and contain a concise statement of the interest of protestant in the proceeding.

(b) The original and two copies of any protest shall be filed with the Associate Administrator for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Washington, DC 20590, and one copy shall be furnished to each applicant.

(c) Protests should be filed within the time limit set forth in the public notice.

(d) The protestant shall certify that service of a copy of its protest was made upon each applicant.

(e) Request for hearing must be accompanied with a showing why the protestant is unable to properly present his or her position by written statements.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 49 FR 3380, Jan. 26, 1984, part 235 was revised. This section contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

APPENDIX A TO PART 235—SCHEDULE OF CIVIL PENALTIES¹

Section	Violation	Willful violation
235.5 Changes requiring filing of application	\$5,000	\$7,500

[53 FR 52936, Dec. 29, 1988, as amended at 69 FR 62818, Oct. 28, 2004]

¹A penalty may be assessed against an individual only for a willful violation. The Administrator reserves the right to assess a

penalty of up to \$27,000 for any violation where circumstances warrant. See 49 CFR part 209, appendix A.

**PART 236—RULES, STANDARDS,
AND INSTRUCTIONS GOVERNING
THE INSTALLATION, INSPECTION,
MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR OF
SIGNAL AND TRAIN CONTROL
SYSTEMS, DEVICES, AND APPLI-
ANCES**

Sec.

236.0 Applicability, minimum requirements, and penalties.

**Subpart A—Rules and Instructions: All
Systems**

GENERAL

- 236.1 Plans, where kept.
- 236.2 Grounds.
- 236.3 Locking of signal apparatus housings.
- 236.4 Interference with normal functioning of device.
- 236.5 Design of control circuits on closed circuit principle.
- 236.6 Hand-operated switch equipped with switch circuit controller.
- 236.7 Circuit controller operated by switch-and-lock movement.
- 236.8 Operating characteristics of electromagnetic, electronic, or electrical apparatus.
- 236.9 Selection of circuits through indicating or annunciating instruments.
- 236.10 Electric locks, force drop type; where required.
- 236.11 Adjustment, repair, or replacement of component.
- 236.12 Spring switch signal protection; where required.
- 236.13 Spring switch; selection of signal control circuits through circuit controller.
- 236.14 Spring switch signal protection; requirements.
- 236.15 Timetable instructions.
- 236.16 Electric lock, main track releasing circuit.
- 236.17 Pipe for operating connections, requirements.
- 236.18 Software management control plan.

ROADWAY SIGNALS AND CAB SIGNALS

- 236.21 Location of roadway signals.
- 236.22 Semaphore signal arm; clearance to other objects.
- 236.23 Aspects and indications.
- 236.24 Spacing of roadway signals.
- 236.25 [Reserved]
- 236.26 Buffing device, maintenance.

TRACK CIRCUITS

- 236.51 Track circuit requirements.
- 236.52 Relayed cut-section.
- 236.53 Track circuit feed at grade crossing.
- 236.54 Minimum length of track circuit.
- 236.55 Dead section; maximum length.

- 236.56 Shunting sensitivity.
- 236.57 Shunt and fouling wires.
- 236.58 Turnout, fouling section.
- 236.59 Insulated rail joints.
- 236.60 Switch shunting circuit; use restricted.

WIRES AND CABLES

- 236.71 Signal wires on pole line and aerial cable.
- 236.72 [Reserved]
- 236.73 Open-wire transmission line; clearance to other circuits.
- 236.74 Protection of insulated wire; splice in underground wire.
- 236.75 [Reserved]
- 236.76 Tagging of wires and interference of wires or tags with signal apparatus.

INSPECTIONS AND TESTS; ALL SYSTEMS

- 236.101 Purpose of inspection and tests; removal from service of relay or device failing to meet test requirements.
- 236.102 Semaphore or searchlight signal mechanism.
- 236.103 Switch circuit controller or point detector.
- 236.104 Shunt fouling circuit.
- 236.105 Electric lock.
- 236.106 Relays.
- 236.107 Ground tests.
- 236.108 Insulation resistance tests, wires in trunking and cables.
- 236.109 Time releases, timing relays and timing devices.
- 236.110 Results of tests.

**Subpart B—Automatic Block Signal
Systems**

STANDARDS

- 236.201 Track-circuit control of signals.
- 236.202 Signal governing movements over hand-operated switch.
- 236.203 Hand operated crossover between main tracks; protection.
- 236.204 Track signaled for movements in both directions, requirements.
- 236.205 Signal control circuits; requirements.
- 236.206 Battery or power supply with respect to relay; location.
- 236.207 Electric lock on hand-operated switch; control.

Subpart C—Interlocking

STANDARDS

- 236.301 Where signals shall be provided.
- 236.302 Track circuits and route locking.
- 236.303 Control circuits for signals, selection through circuit controller operated by switch points or by switch locking mechanism.
- 236.304 Mechanical locking or same protection effected by circuits.