

SSIT-1105 Inspecting Pole Line

Purpose

These instructions describe the pole line inspections required to verify they are in good condition.

Test Intervals

Tests are performed when installed, as required, and at least once every two (2) years as prescribed in *SSIT-7 Signal System Inspection and Test Intervals*.

In locations where there is evidence of frost heaving, additional inspections may be required seasonally.

Rail Safety

Employee shall ensure the site is safe for employees, the public, vehicular traffic and train operations as defined in *SSIT-8 Protecting Train Operations* prior to performing tests and inspections. Proper fall arrest protocols must be followed when performing inspections at height.

Procedure

The following tests are to be performed at each crossing warning system location using pole line circuits:

Step	Procedure
1. Inspect Pole Line Cable Drops for Frost Heaving	<p>→ Check natural or painted markings for evidence of lift. If lift is greater than 1”: Inspect terminations for strain, increase frequency of review to ensure lift is reduced after thaw. If evidence of severe frost heave or cable strain: new approach required for routing ground cables (i.e. splices, junction boxes, etc.)</p>
2. Inspect Pole Lines	<p>→ Check pole lines have not been subjected to severe damage by lightning strikes or severe weather. → Check pole line connections provide proper support and isolation. → Check pole lines are straight and secure. → Check poles, guywires, crossarms, pins, and insulators are in good condition. If pole line shows wear: Report to the ONR S&C Supervisor immediately.</p>
3. Inspect Pole Line Cables	<p>→ Check cables are free of obstructions or debris. → Check cables are secured on pole lines. → Check cables are sagged equally, and not pulled tight. → Check cables have significant clearance for safe train operation. If cables show wear: Report to the ONR S&C Supervisor immediately.</p>