

PLANT MAINTENANCE

INSPECTION OF OUTSIDE PLANT - GENERAL

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This series of sections replaces Section G10.901, Issue B, and Addendum, Issue A. It outlines the general policies to be followed by all of the plant forces in clearing defective outside plant conditions detected as the result of scheduled or routine inspections and defines the departmental responsibilities in connection therewith. It is issued to clarify the various departmental responsibilities for reporting, processing, and clearing of plant conditions requiring correction.

1.02 The specific requirements and procedures for programming outside plant inspections, railroad crossing inspections, tree trimming, and other plant maintenance activities are covered in the sections listed below:

- G10.910.2 Safety Hazards - Classifying, Reporting, and Clearing
- G10.910.3 Reports - Preparation, Use, and Disposition
- G10.910.4 Inspection of Outside Plant on Normal Work Visits
- G10.910.5 Scheduled Inspection of Exchange Outside Plant
- G10.910.6 Scheduled Inspection of Exchange Aerial Cable
- G10.910.7 Scheduled Inspection of Toll Cable Plant
- G10.911.1 Railroad Crossings - Annual Inspection

- G10.912.1 Tree Trimming - General
- G10.912.2 Tree Trimming - State Highways
- G10.912.3 Tree Trimming - Los Angeles City
- G10.912.4 Tree Trimming - Los Angeles County
- G10.912.5 Tree Trimming - Counties and Cities Other Than Los Angeles
- G10.912.6 Tree Trimming - Private Property
- G10.913.1 Reporting and Clearing Gas in Manholes

1.03 All defects corrected shall be repaired in accordance with Bell System Practices, "G" Series, Outside Plant Construction and Maintenance.

1.04 In applying these instructions, it should be kept in mind that because equipment, materials, and methods are continually being improved, the average plant contains types that may not be used for new construction, but which will continue to give good service, and in the interest of economy should be maintained in plant. It is intended, in general, that only those conditions which present a safety, or service hazard, or state law violation shall be reported for correction.

1.05 All plant conditions requiring correction due to plant damage shall be handled in accordance with System Instruction No. 58 and Plant Routine No. 5.

1.06 Particular attention should be given to Bell System Practices, Section G10.301-S, General Practices, Clearances of Aerial Plant.

2. POLICY

2.01 The district plant superintendent (exchange) and district plant superintendent (toll) are responsible for the service condition of all plant, both working and reserve, located within their respective districts. In addition, they are responsible for initiating requests to other departments for assistance in correcting plant conditions that cannot be cleared by their forces.

2.02 The construction and engineering forces shall assist the district plant superintendents in carrying out their maintenance responsibilities. They shall be responsible for originating action directed towards the correction of maintenance conditions referred from other departments.

3. DEPARTMENTAL MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

3.01 The various plant groups shall, in general, be responsible for the following:

(a) Plant Service Forces

- (1) Scheduled inspections of exchange outside plant, including house cable but excluding other cable and conduit.
- (2) Seasonal inspections of exchange aerial wire and cable plant for impending tree conditions.
- (3) Originating and processing requests for tree trimming, as outlined in the section entitled Plant Maintenance - Tree Trimming.
- (4) Recording, numbering, and distributing Forms P-3028, Plant Conditions Requiring Correction, initiated by the plant service forces, in accordance with the provisions of Bell System Practices, "F" Series.
- (5) Scheduled inspections of railroad crossings involving exchange aerial plant.
- (6) Clearing defects found on scheduled or routine inspections, including defects referred from other departments, that fall within the scope of their operations.
- (7) The following is a list of typical work operations which, in general, shall be completed by the plant service forces:

Drop Wire Plant

Guard drops.
Replace, reroute or repair damaged drops or wires with clearance infractions

Aerial Wire

Pull slack.
Repair open wire
Replace insulators

Poles and Crossarms

Step or restep poles
Minor crossarm repairs or replacements

Cable

Tape sheath defects.

Trees

Trim trees or initiate trimming lists and requests for trimming permits as outlined in the sections covering Plant Maintenance - Tree Trimming.

Terminals

Place slip covers.
Replace or repair defective covers.

Poles and Crossarms (Cont.)

Terminals (Cont.)

Place or replace arm guys.
Place "B" guard rails on existing "S" pole seats.
Place or replace guard arms.

Clean face plates and lugs.
Restencil terminals.
Replace jumpers.
Minor "B" terminal repairs.
Install tie rods on inside of existing "H" and "L" sections.

(b) Construction and Engineering Forces

- (1) Scheduled inspections and repair of cable plant, (exclusive of house cable) and conduit.
- (2) Originate and process requests for tree trimming as covered in the sections on tree trimming; secure permits and negotiate contracts for the completion of such tree trimming operations.
- (3) Issuance of routine orders when required.
- (4) Physical inspection of strand and cable or a combination of wire and cable at railroad crossings as outlined in the section entitled Plant Maintenance - Railroad Crossings Annual Inspection
- (5) Clear defects found on scheduled or routine inspections, including items referred from other departments, that fall within the scope of their operations.
- (6) Make necessary contacts with foreign utility companies.
- (7) Recording, numbering, and distributing Forms P-3028, Plant Condition Requiring Correction, initiated by the construction and engineering forces.
- (8) The following is a list of typical work operations which, in general, shall be completed by the construction and engineering forces:

Poles and Crossarms

Cable

Replace poles.
Move, stub, or reset poles.
Replace anchors.
Replace or repair pole guys and shields

Cable repairs.
Placing, replacing, or removing cable moulding.

Major crossarm replacements.

Terminals

Major "B" terminal repairs.
Terminal replacements.
Terminal splicing work.

Wire

Major replacements of wire with cable
Major repairs to buried wire.

Trees

Obtain trimming permits and trim trees or process tree trimming lists as outlined in the sections entitled, Plant Maintenance - Tree Trimming.

Note: State law clearance or power infractions that cannot be cleared by the plant service or toll maintenance forces shall be referred to the construction and engineering forces for assistance.

(c) Toll Forces

- (1) Scheduled and routine inspections of toll aerial wire plant.
- (2) Recording, numbering, and distributing Forms P-3028, Plant Condition Requiring Correction, on defects involving toll aerial wire plant.
- (3) Scheduled inspections of railroad crossings involving toll aerial plant. This inspection shall be made as outlined in the section entitled, Plant Maintenance - Railroad Crossings Annual Inspection.
- (4) Clearing defects found on scheduled or routine inspections, including items referred from other departments, that fall within the scope of their operations.
- (5) Due to the manpower limitation and the distances involved, the toll maintenance forces will, of necessity, require the assistance of the plant service, or construction and engineering forces in fulfilling their maintenance responsibilities. Items that cannot be cleared by the toll forces shall be referred to the appropriate department for action.

3.02 All defective plant conditions reported shall be carefully supervised by the department reporting to assure the work is justified from a safety or service and economic point of view. Full advantage shall be taken by supervision of the training opportunities presented and individual training given as required.