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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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IN RE: BOROUGH OF RIDLEY PARK

DOCKET NUMBER

vs.

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY,
PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION, CONSOLIDATED
RAIL CORPORATION, NATIONAL
RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION
AND DELAWARE COUNTY
(Bridge - Sellers Avenue and
East Ridley Avenue)

C-850414

RECEIVED

JUN 20 1987

Further Hearing

SECRETARYS OFFICE
Public Utility Commission

Pages 11 through 62

Courtroom B
Old Courthouse Building
Front Street
Media, Pennsylvania

Thursday, May 28, 1987

The above-entitled matter met, pursuant to
notice, at 10:00 a.m.

BEFORE: THE HONORABLE MARTIN FOUNTAIN
Administrative Law Judge

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JUN 1 1987

DOCKET
FOLDER

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24 - - - - -
25

I N D E X

<u>WITNESS</u>	<u>DIRECT</u>	<u>CROSS</u>	<u>REDIRECT</u>	<u>RECROSS</u>
JOHN J. MILLER				
By Mr. Martin	14		35	
By Mr. Polaha		18		36
By Mr. Cipriani		28		
By Mr. Cohen		29		
By Mr. Stein		32		
RICHARD COOPER				
By Mr. Cohen	38			
By Mr. Stein		40		
By Mr. Cipriani		41		
JON E. TACKE				
By Mr. Cipriani	42			
By Mr. Martin		44		
By Mr. Polaha		44		
JAMES C. KELLY				
By Mr. Polaha	45			
By Mr. Martin		53		
By Mr. Stein		56		
ROGER HEEBNER				
By Mr. Stein	58			
By Mr. Martin		60		
By Mr. Polaha		60		

E X H I B I T S

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>MK'D</u>	<u>REC'D</u>
PENNDOT			
✓✓ No. 1	Letter of 12-22-86	15	37
RIDLEY PARK			
✓✓ No. 1	Letter of 3-1-85	21	

1 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE MARTIN FOUNTAIN: Do
2 you want to call your first witness?

3 MR. MARTIN: Thank you. I call John Miller.

4 - - - - -

5 JOHN J. MILLER, having been duly sworn,
6 was examined and testified as follows:

7 - - - - -

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION

9 - - - - -

10 BY MR. MARTIN:

11 Q. Would you state your name for the record,
12 please?

13 A. John J. Miller.

14 Q. Mr. Miller, by whom are you employed?

15 A. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

16 Q. What is your position?

17 A. I am assistant bridge engineer in District 6-0.

18 Q. Are you authorized to testify on behalf of the
19 Department of Transportation at this hearing?

20 A. Yes, I am.

21 Q. Are you familiar with the questions and
22 procedures that were promulgated for this proceeding?

23 A. Yes, I am.

24 Q. Question No. 1 indicates that the department
25 should submit testimony indicating in detail the cost

1 it incurred in complying with the Commission's order
2 of December 4th, 1986. Do you have any idea what
3 those costs were?

4 A. I don't have any idea what the sum is. They
5 are minimal, and the department was willing to cover
6 the costs of testing.

7 Q. With respect to Question No. 2 --

8 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, at this time I would
9 like marked as PennDOT Exhibit No. 1 --

10 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Okay.

11 - - - - -

12 (Whereupon, a Letter of 12-22-86 was marked
13 PennDOT Exhibit No. 1 for identification.)

14 - - - - -

15 BY MR. MARTIN:

16 Q. Mr. Miller, I show you what has been marked as
17 PennDOT Exhibit 1, and refer you to Question No. 2
18 promulgated by the Commission. Is this a summary of
19 the analysis that was done on the bridge deck core
20 boring samples that were provided to the department?

21 A. Yes, it is.

22 Q. Mr. Miller, at this time, reviewing that
23 summary, would you at this time have any changes to
24 make on that?

25 A. Yes. Bituminous overlay, the expected life

1 would be five to seven years instead of five to ten.

2 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Five to seven?

3 THE WITNESS: Five to seven. Also, the total
4 cost for these projects, the latex modified concrete
5 would be 75 to a hundred thousand dollars for a
6 separate project. And for total costs and the deck
7 replacement would be in the range of 200 to \$250,000
8 total cost of the project.

9 - - - - -

10 BY MR. MARTIN:

11 Q. Mr. Miller, referring to Question 3 promulgated
12 by the Commission. Based on these test results, what
13 is the department's recommendation as to the repair or
14 other improvement needed on this structure?

15 A. The department would recommend rehabilitating
16 the deck with a latex concrete overlay.

17 Q. Relating to Question 4, in the department's
18 opinion is the existing bridge adequate in strength
19 and physical dimensions to safely accommodate the
20 class and volume of traffic that normally uses this
21 highway?

22 A. Yes, it is.

23 Q. Referring to Question 5, would you indicate for
24 the record what portion of the work the department
25 would be willing to perform at this structure?

1 A. The department would be willing to perform the
2 latex modified concrete overlay of the deck in
3 conjunction with an overlay project that we have
4 currently scheduled for Sellers Avenue from Traffic
5 Route 291 to the bridge site.

6 Q. Mr. Miller, when is that Sellers Avenue project
7 program to be accomplished?

8 A. That is presently scheduled for 1989.

9 Q. Mr. Miller, you indicated that you would make
10 some changes in the costs in the report of Exhibit No.
11 1. If the latex overlay were done in conjunction with
12 the Sellers Avenue project in 1989, what,
13 approximately, would be the cost of that latex
14 overlay?

15 A. Considering maintenance of traffic would be
16 part of the overall project, the cost would be pretty
17 much confined to the deck work itself. That would be
18 about \$50,000.

19 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: What about that 75 to a
20 hundred thousand dollars you mentioned earlier?

21 THE WITNESS: As a separate project where
22 mobilization and maintenance of traffic would be part
23 of the latex project.

24 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: In other words, you are saying
25 that if you worked in conjunction with the other

1 project it would be a savings of what, \$25,000?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes.

3 - - - - -

4 BY MR. MARTIN:

5 Q. Mr. Miller, what portions of the costs of the
6 improvement to this structure is the department
7 willing to bear?

8 A. If the department can do this as part of the
9 scheduled project for the overlay of Sellers Avenue,
10 which is partially federally funded, the department
11 would be willing to assume the entire cost of the
12 work.

13 Q. Mr. Miller, if the project is not -- if
14 improvements to this structure are not done in
15 conjunction with the Sellers Avenue project, would the
16 department seek a sharing of costs from other parties?

17 A. Yes, we would.

18 MR. MARTIN: I have no further questions, your
19 Honor. The witness is available for cross
20 examination.

21 - - - - -

22 CROSS EXAMINATION

23 - - - - -

24 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right, cross examination.
25 Mr. Polaha?

1 MR. POLAHA: Your Honor, I represent the
2 Borough of Ridley Park.

3 - - - - -

4 BY MR. POLAHA:

5 Q. Mr. Miller, have you inspected the Sellers
6 Avenue bridge lately?

7 A. Not since the PUC field view.

8 Q. And when was that field view?

9 A. I don't remember offhand.

10 Q. Sometime in 1986?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. When you inspected the bridge at the time of
13 the field view, how would you describe the deck or the
14 bridge surface?

15 A. There is numerous fault areas and bituminous
16 patching.

17 Q. And to the best of your knowledge, that
18 bituminous patching has been done by the borough of
19 Ridley Park?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Would you agree that that bituminous patching
22 has created an uneven surface on the deck of the
23 bridge?

24 A. Yes, it has.

25 Q. And as cars leave the deck of the bridge,

1 whether they are going north or south, are there not
2 left- and right-hand turns immediately after leaving
3 the bridge itself?

4 A. There are intersections probably within a
5 hundred feet of the bridge, yes.

6 Q. Wouldn't you agree that the uneven surface of
7 the bridge caused by the bituminous patching creates
8 an unsafe condition?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Would not cars riding over the bituminous
11 patching, which results in the uneven condition --
12 uneven surface of that bridge, have a tendency to
13 bounce?

14 A. I am really not an expert in vehicle bouncing
15 and stopping.

16 Q. Did you have an occasion to inspect the
17 approaches to the bridge near the approaches where
18 they meet the deck of the bridge?

19 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: What bridge are you talking
20 about?

21 MR. POLAHA: Sellers Avenue bridge.

22 THE WITNESS: Yes.

23 - - - - -
24 BY MR. POLAHA:

25 Q. And how would you describe the approaches to

1 the bridge, the condition of those approaches?

2 A. I am really not sure. I don't remember.

3 Q. Have those approaches settled in any way,
4 settled in such a way that there is an uneven
5 situation between the approaches and the bridge
6 itself?

7 A. I am really not sure.

8 MR. POLAHA: May I take a minute, your Honor?

9 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Sure.

10 MR. POLAHA: May I have this letter marked as
11 an exhibit?

12 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: You may. What is the number
13 of the exhibit?

14

- - - - -

15 (Whereupon, a Letter of 3-1-85 was marked
16 Ridley Park Exhibit No. 1 for
17 identification.)

18

- - - - -

19 BY MR. POLAHA:

20 Q. Mr. Miller, I would like to show you what has
21 been marked as Ridley Park 1.

22 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Do you have one for me?

23 MR. POLAHA: I am sorry, your Honor.

24

- - - - -

25 BY MR. POLAHA:

1 Q. Have you seen that letter before?

2 A. No, I have not read the letter before.

3 Q. Would you take a minute to read it?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Who is Mr. Rowland?

6 A. He is the district engineer for District 6-0.

7 Q. Is he your supervisor?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And would you like to read what Mr. Rowland
10 states in the third paragraph of that letter?

11 MR. MARTIN: Objection, your Honor.

12 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: It speaks for itself.

13 MR. POLAHA: Thank you, your Honor.

14 - - - - -

15 BY MR. POLAHA:

16 Q. Mr. Miller, are you familiar with the
17 Swarthmore Avenue bridge?

18 A. Yes, I am.

19 Q. And is that also a bridge located in the
20 borough of Ridley Park?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How far away is the Swarthmore Avenue bridge
23 from the Sellers Avenue bridge?

24 A. The next block down.

25 Q. One block away?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And is the Swarthmore Avenue bridge to be
3 reconstructed?

4 A. Yes, scheduled for reconstruction.

5 Q. And when is that bridge scheduled for
6 reconstruction?

7 A. 1989, I think, sometime.

8 Q. And how long will that bridge be under
9 construction?

10 A. I don't have the construction schedule. I
11 assume probably a year or less. I really don't have a
12 schedule. But from the size of the bridge, I would
13 assume it can be done in one season.

14 Q. When that bridge is being reconstructed, the
15 Swarthmore Avenue bridge, is it likely that the
16 traffic is going to be rerouted onto the Sellers
17 Avenue bridge?

18 A. I don't know what the proposed detour is.

19 Q. Wouldn't that be a likely detour, since it is
20 only one block away?

21 A. Not necessarily. A detour could be over state
22 highways and probably larger highways than Sellers
23 Avenue, the official detour.

24 Q. Other than for the Sellers Avenue bridge, do
25 you know where the nearest bridge is to the Swarthmore

1 Avenue bridge?

2 A. Not without a map to look at.

3 Q. Do you know what the daily traffic count is on
4 the Swarthmore Avenue bridge?

5 A. No, I have no idea.

6 Q. Do you know what the daily traffic count is on
7 the Sellers Avenue bridge?

8 A. I think it was approximately 7,250.

9 MR. POLAHA: Your Honor, I would like to show
10 the witness a copy of your recommended decision in
11 this case. Would you like me to mark it as an
12 exhibit? It's already part of the record.

13 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: It's part of the record. I
14 would ask PennDOT -- I would ask that you show that to
15 PennDOT's counsel.

16 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Off the record.

17 - - - - -

18 (Discussion held off the record.)

19 - - - - -

20 BY MR. POLAHA:

21 Q. Mr. Miller, I am going to show you a four-page
22 decision previously -- recommended decision,
23 previously handed down by Judge Fountain in this case,
24 and I would like you to look at page 3, the top
25 paragraph, the sentence that begins with "PennDOT

1 engineer".

2 A. All right.

3 Q. Were you the engineer who made that statement?

4 A. No, I was not.

5 Q. Do you know what engineer it was?

6 MR. MARTIN: I think we all know, your Honor.

7 THE WITNESS: It was Milt Davis.

8 MR. POLAHA: May I have Mr. Miller read that
9 sentence into the record? I think it's important.

10 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right.

11 THE WITNESS: PennDOT's engineer, upon learning
12 that another bridge in the vicinity was due for
13 closure in the foreseeable future, which would result
14 in a hundred thousand vehicles weekly using the
15 subject structure, determined that mere resurfacing
16 was an inadequate short-term remedy, and advised
17 instead the entire deck be replaced.

18 - - - - -

19 BY MR. POLAHA:

20 Q. As far as the number of vehicles referred to in
21 that sentence, do you have any reason to disagree with
22 that figure?

23 A. No.

24 Q. You have indicated in your testimony that you
25 would -- that is, PennDOT would be willing to

1 reconstruct the bridge surface in its normal plan in
2 1989?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. In light of what you testified to concerning
5 the bituminous patching on the bridge, is there
6 something that PennDOT would be willing to do in the
7 interim, for example, this summer, to make the bridge
8 surface smoother?

9 A. The department has not assumed any
10 responsibility for the bridge, and we do not assume
11 any maintenance responsibility for patching the deck.

12 Q. This is a state highway that goes over the
13 bridge, is it not?

14 A. A state highway on both approaches, yes.

15 Q. And as the approach comes to the bridge, the
16 highway continues over the bridge to the other side
17 where there is also a state highway?

18 A. Yes, there is a state highway on both
19 approaches of the bridge.

20 Q. So the state highway goes over the bridge?

21 A. Correct, yes.

22 MR. POLAHA: I have no further questions.

23 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Thank you. Mr. Cipriani, do
24 you have any questions?

25

1 BY MR. CIPRIANI:

2 Q. Mr. Miller, I am just reading your report for
3 the first time, and I understand that you have
4 suggested that if the Sellers Avenue project were to
5 go forward that you would be willing to reconstruct
6 this bridge. Can you explain to the Administrative
7 Law Judge, and to those in the hearing room, how the
8 sequence of events will be for the reconstruction of
9 Sellers Avenue and how it will tie into this
10 particular bridge? What work is going to be done?

11 A. What work is going to be done?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. In what order?

14 Q. In 1989 what work is planned to be done and
15 exactly what will you do to this bridge?

16 A. Presently the Sellers Avenue project does not
17 include any bridge deck work. The Swarthmore Avenue
18 project would be replacing the bridge of the
19 Swarthmore bridge over Amtrak. They are both
20 scheduled for 1989 right now.

21 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: You mentioned in your previous
22 testimony that you were going to rehabilitate the
23 Sellers Avenue bridge with the latex modified
24 concrete.

25 THE WITNESS: We would be willing to add that

1 to the project.

2 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I think that's what Mr.
3 Cepriani wanted to know.

4 THE WITNESS: Yes, we would be willing to add
5 that to the Sellers Avenue project.

6 - - - - -

7 BY MR. CIPRIANI:

8 Q. I also wanted to direct your attention to the
9 March 1985 letter which was just entered into the
10 record, and in the first paragraph you will note the
11 reference to SEPTA in Ridley Park. Will you agree
12 with me that the railroad is owned by Amtrak and not
13 SEPTA? Were you shown this letter?

14 A. Yes.

15 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Wait a minute, Mr. Cipriani.
16 Where is that indicated?

17 MR. CIPRIANI: The March 1st, 1985 letter, your
18 Honor, on the first paragraph, the third line, the
19 words SEPTA railroad in Ridley Park. And I believe
20 that should read Amtrak in Ridley Park.

21 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Over the SEPTA railroad?

22 MR. CIPRIANI: That's correct, your Honor.

23 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Do you think he is the proper
24 witness to determine that?

25 MR. CIPRIANI: It came from his department,

1 your Honor. I will withdraw the question, your Honor.

2 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I am not banging you over the
3 head to withdraw it, but I am simply pointing out that
4 I don't think this is the proper witness to get that
5 information from.

6 MR. CIPRIANI: I agree. It simply came from
7 his department. I have no further questions.

8 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cohen, do you have
9 anything?

10 MR. COHEN: Yes, sir.

11

- - - - -

12 BY MR. COHEN:

13 Q. The costs mentioned in your -- your
14 department's memorandum of December 22nd, 1986 that
15 were amended, are those costs, the \$50,000 for the LMC
16 rehab and \$100,000 for the deck replacement, are those
17 the costs estimated if it were part of the Sellers
18 Avenue project?

19 A. Well, they are costs just for doing the deck
20 work, not including any mobilization, maintenance of
21 traffic, flagmen, any railroad electrification that
22 might be involved.

23 Q. Mr. Miller, I don't know, is it through your
24 testimony that those numbers were amended?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. What then does the 75 to a hundred thousand
2 dollars represent?

3 A. That would include traffic mobilizations.

4 Q. Total costs?

5 A. Total costs.

6 Q. And you subsequently said if the LMC rehab were
7 done as part of the Sellers Avenue project, \$5,000
8 would represent an estimate as to what it would cost
9 within that project, is that right?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. And would the same hold true for the deck
12 replacement where you testified, I believe, that if
13 the deck replacement were done separately as an
14 individual project it would cost 200 to \$250,000
15 inclusive of mobilization, maintenance of traffic, et
16 cetera, et cetera.

17 Would a hundred thousand dollars be an accurate
18 estimate of what it would cost if it were part of the
19 entire project for Sellers Avenue?

20 A. No. There would still be additional costs for
21 flagmen and railroad insurance and stuff, because you
22 would be exposing -- latex overlay, there is no
23 exposure to the electrified tracks -- closeout times
24 and stuff.

25 Q. Would you be able to give us an estimate on a

1 rough order of magnitude as to what that cost would be
2 for the deck replacement if it were part of the
3 Sellers Avenue project and including the railroad
4 protection costs, et cetera?

5 A. A rough estimate, maybe 150 to 200,000.

6 Q. Thank you. Do you know when the deck on this
7 bridge was constructed, the current deck?

8 A. No, I don't. It was part of the railroad deck
9 replacement project.

10 Q. Now, you were referred by counsel for Ridley
11 Park to a portion of Judge Fountain's recommended
12 decision from the previous hearing in which the
13 testimony of Mr. Davis was incorporated into that
14 opinion?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And you recall the words "mere resurfacing"?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. Is the LMC rehab, to your understanding, would
19 that be described as mere resurfacing or would it be
20 something else?

21 A. That would be something more than mere
22 resurfacing.

23 Q. Would a bituminous overlay be more accurately
24 described as a mere resurfacing?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. Do you know if the department were of the
2 opinion that a deck replacement were appropriate at
3 this time, and it were incorporated within the Sellers
4 Avenue overall project, if that would also be
5 federally funded and costs which the department would
6 be willing to assume?

7 A. I don't know that a deck replacement could be
8 added to the project. It's of a different nature than
9 the overlay to the highway.

10 MR. COHEN: No other questions.

11 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: While I have you up here, Mr.
12 Cohen, is it Amtrak's track.

13 MR. COHEN: Mr. Cooper is here and he will
14 testify, and he can answer that question directly.

15 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right. Now, Conrail.

16 MR. STEIN: I am James Stein, for Conrail.

17 - - - - -

18 BY MR. STEIN:

19 Q. Mr. Miller, would PennDOT agree to maintain the
20 bridge in the future if there is a reconstruction or
21 repair project ordered?

22 A. No, we would not agree to maintain it.

23 Q. Would you agree for PennDOT to bear any costs
24 of maintenance in the future, as opposed to doing the
25 maintenance work?

1 A. No, we would not agree to bear any costs.

2 Q. Is it your testimony that the bridge is safe to
3 accommodate the present traffic load in its current
4 condition?

5 A. Yes, it is.

6 Q. I believe that you testified that if the LMC
7 rehab were done as a separate project, the total cost
8 would be up to a hundred thousand, is that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. So that there could, therefore, be a saving up
11 to 50,000 if it is done in conjunction with the
12 Sellers Avenue work as opposed to being done as a
13 separate project?

14 A. Approximately that, yes.

15 Q. And if this repair work is done as a separate
16 project, either with the latex modified concrete or
17 bituminous overlay, in either case, would PennDOT seek
18 a contribution from the other parties?

19 A. Yes, we would.

20 Q. How long would it take to resurface this bridge
21 surface in conjunction with the Sellers Avenue
22 project, if that were done with the latex modified
23 concrete?

24 A. Approximately a month, I would guess.

25 Q. Would it be possible to do that work in

1 conjunction with the reconstruction of the Swarthmore
2 Avenue bridge so that they could be scheduled
3 together, so the scheduling could be coordinated in
4 order to accommodate the excess traffic onto the
5 Sellers Avenue bridge?

6 A. I haven't really looked into accommodating the
7 traffic as separate projects.

8 Q. Do you know if it would be possible, based on
9 your experience?

10 A. Well, depending on when exactly each project
11 was let.

12 Q. Would you still recommend the latex modified
13 concrete as opposed to a bituminous overlay if this
14 was done as a separate project?

15 A. Yes, I would.

16 Q. And that's true even though the costs might be
17 as much as ten times, from your own testimony, it
18 might be 75 to a hundred thousand, versus \$10,000 for
19 a bituminous overlay, is that correct? That's the
20 figures on PennDOT Exhibit 1.

21 A. Well, we would still recommend the latex
22 overlay over the bituminous overlay.

23 Q. Even though the expected life of this project
24 would be five to seven years for bituminous overlay
25 and 15 to 20 years for LMC?

1 A. Partially because of the increased expected
2 life and also partially because the bituminous overlay
3 would reduce the load carrying capacity by
4 approximately 15 percent, where the latex overlay only
5 reduces it approximately six percent.

6 Q. So your recommendation would still stand, even
7 though the expected life is five times for the latex
8 overlay and the cost is 7.5 to ten times the cost?

9 A. Correct.

10 MR. STEIN: Thank you.

11 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Is that it, Mr. Stein?

12 MR. STEIN: Yes.

13 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I think I have covered
14 everybody. Do you have any redirect?

15 MR. MARTIN: Just one or two questions, your
16 Honor.

17 - - - - -
18 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
19 - - - - -

20 BY MR. MARTIN:

21 Q. Mr. Miller, if in consideration of the
22 Swarthmore Avenue bridge reconstruction it is
23 determined that a detour during the execution of that
24 project would direct traffic over Sellers Avenue, if
25 you know, would you anticipate that the district and

1 the department would program the resurfacing of the
2 Sellers Avenue bridge before the Swarthmore Avenue
3 project would be undertaken in order to accommodate
4 the detour of traffic?

5 A. It would probably have to make some scheduling
6 adjustments in each project.

7 Q. But at this time the Swarthmore Avenue bridge
8 project -- is it far enough along to determine where
9 the detour will be directed?

10 A. I am not sure whether we have detours set up or
11 not.

12 MR. MARTIN: I have nothing further, your
13 Honor.

14 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Any recross on that?

15 MR. POLAHA: Your Honor, I have two questions.

16 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Two questions on recross on
17 the redirect.

18 - - - - -

19 RECCROSS EXAMINATION

20 - - - - -

21 BY MR. POLAHA:

22 Q. Mr. Miller, you testified that in your opinion
23 the bridge is safe?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And yet you have also testified that PennDOT

1 would be willing to spend upwards of a hundred
2 thousand dollars to reconstruct the surface of the
3 bridge?

4 MR. MARTIN: Objection, your Honor. This is
5 beyond the scope of the redirect.

6 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Yes, both questions were.
7 Sustained.

8 MR. POLAHA: Thank you, your Honor.

9 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right. You may step down.

10 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, I would move the
11 admission of PennDOT Exhibit No. 1.

12 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Any objection?

13 (no audible response)

14 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: It will be admitted.

15 - - - - -

16 (Whereupon, PennDOT Exhibit No. 1
17 was admitted into evidence.)

18 - - - - -

19 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right, Mr. Cohen, you will
20 call Mr. Cooper, I take it?

21 MR. COHEN: Just a second, your Honor.

22 - - - - -

23 RICHARD H. COOPER, having been duly sworn,
24 was examined and testified as follows:

25 - - - - -

DIRECT EXAMINATION

- - - - -

1
2
3 BY MR. COHEN:

4 Q. Can you state your name, title and business
5 address and employer, please?

6 A. Richard H. Cooper. My business address is 2000
7 Market Street, Sixth Floor, Engineering Department,
8 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The ZIP code is 19103. I
9 am employed as the engineer of public projects for the
10 National Railroad Passenger Corporation, also known as
11 Amtrak.

12 Q. And you are authorized to testify on behalf of
13 Amtrak today?

14 A. Yes, I am.

15 Q. Amtrak has been directed to respond to certain
16 questions and procedures propounded by the
17 Commission. Question 3, the first of those, requires
18 Amtrak to submit testimony based on test results as to
19 its recommendation for repairs or replacement or other
20 work required to be done on the bridge and the cost of
21 such work.

22 A. Amtrak would agree to the testimony of PennDOT
23 to place a latex modified concrete surface on the
24 deck.

25 Q. Question 4 requires Amtrak to submit testimony

1 whether in its opinion the existing bridge is adequate
2 in strength and physical dimensions to accommodate
3 safely the class and volume of traffic normally using
4 the highway at this location, and if not, to describe
5 the nature and extent of all work which it deems
6 necessary and advisable to provide a safe and
7 convenient crossing at this location.

8 A. Amtrak would, again, concur with the testimony
9 presented by PennDOT with regard to the condition and
10 adequacy of the bridge.

11 Q. Has Amtrak, in conjunction with that answer,
12 conducted any detailed inspection or analysis of the
13 bridge?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Question 5, Amtrak shall present testimony
16 indicating what portion of the work it will agree to
17 perform, what portion of the costs it will agree to
18 assume, what portion of the completed work it will
19 agree to maintain in the future in the event the
20 instant complaint is sustained and an alteration or
21 reconstruction of the crossing is ordered by the
22 Commission.

23 A. Amtrak will not agree to perform any portion of
24 the work to alter or reconstruct the crossing or are
25 we willing to maintain any portion of the completed

1 work in the future.

2 Q. Question 7 requires Amtrak to submit testimony
3 indicating in detail the cost it incurred in complying
4 with the Commission's order of December 4th, 1986.

5 A. The costs incurred by Amtrak complying with the
6 Commission's order to obtain core samples of the deck
7 will be borne by Amtrak at our sole cost and expense.
8 We will not be submitting details of the costs unless
9 there is expressed interest by any party of this
10 matter.

11 Q. Do you have any further testimony in this
12 matter at this time?

13 A. No, I have not.

14 MR. COHEN: I have no further questions at this
15 time, your Honor.

16 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Martin?

17 MR. MARTIN: I have no questions.

18 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Polaha?

19 MR. POLAHA: No questions, your Honor.

20 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cipriani?

21 MR. CIPRIANI: No questions.

22 - - - - -

23 CROSS EXAMINATION

24 - - - - -

25 BY MR. STEIN:

1 Q. Mr. Cooper, does Amtrak own the track beneath
2 the Sellers Avenue bridge?

3 A. Yes, we do.

4 Q. Did you testify whether Amtrak would be willing
5 to bear any of the costs of the reconstruction
6 project?

7 A. I stated that we would not be willing to bear
8 those costs.

9 MR. POLAHA: Thank you, your Honor.

10 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I am sorry.

11 MR. CIPRIANI: Your Honor, if I may?

12 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cipriani?

13 - - - - -

14 BY MR. CIPRIANI:

15 Q. Mr. Cooper, by whom is the rail line under the
16 bridge owned?

17 A. The rail line under the bridge is owned by
18 Amtrak.

19 MR. CIPRIANI: Thank you.

20 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: He already stated that.
21 Anybody else?

22 MR. COHEN: I have no redirect, your Honor.

23 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Thank you. All right, Mr.
24 Cipriani, do you have a witness?

25 MR. CIPRIANI: I do.

1 work?

2 A. No, we do not. We have never inspected the
3 bridge.

4 Q. Does SEPTA have any testimony as to whether the
5 existing bridge is adequate in strength to accommodate
6 the class and volume of traffic normally using it?

7 A. SEPTA has no inspection or data to this effect
8 that we would be able to make a judgment.

9 Q. Okay. To answer Question No. 5, does SEPTA
10 have any testimony to submit as to what portion of the
11 work we would agree to perform or costs we would agree
12 to bear or assume, if the completed work is done, what
13 portion of the completed work we would agree to
14 maintain in the future?

15 A. SEPTA will not agree to bear any work, bear any
16 costs or accept any maintenance subsequent to
17 reconstruction.

18 Q. Do you have any other relevant additional
19 testimony to submit to this hearing?

20 A. None.

21 MR. CIPRIANI: Thank you, your Honor.

22 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Do you have anything?

23 - - - - -

24 CROSS EXAMINATION

25 - - - - -

1 BY MR. MARTIN:

2 Q. Mr. Tacke, does SEPTA operate on this line?

3 A. We do.

4 MR. MARTIN: No further questions.

5 - - - - -

6 BY MR. POLAHA:

7 Q. Do you know who owns the ground upon which the
8 track has been built?

9 A. Amtrak, I would assume.

10 Q. Amtrak also owns the ground in addition to the
11 rail line, as far as you know?

12 A. So far as I know there would be no distinction
13 between the ground and the rail line.

14 MR. POLAHA: Thank you.

15 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Any redirect?

16 MR. CIPRIANI: Your Honor, in light of SEPTA's
17 minimal involvement, in light of the absence of any
18 SEPTA involvement in this particular proceeding, I
19 would move to have SEPTA removed as a party to this
20 proceeding.

21 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Motion is denied. You don't
22 have any redirect?

23 MR. CIPRIANI: No.

24 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Thank you.

25 All right, Ridley Park?

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JAMES C. KELLY, having been duly sworn,
was examined and testified as follows:

- - - - -

DIRECT EXAMINATION

- - - - -

BY MR. POLAHA:

Q. Mr. Kelly, would you state your full name?

A. James C. Kelly.

Q. And are you employed by the Borough of Ridley
Park?

A. I am the engineer for the Borough of Ridley
Park.

Q. And how long have you been the engineer for the
Borough of Ridley Park?

A. Seven years.

Q. Are you a registered engineer in the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

A. Yes, I am.

Q. And how long have you been a registered
engineer?

A. Twenty years.

Q. Are you authorized to speak on behalf of the
Borough of Ridley Park?

A. I am.

1 Q. What is your recommendation, and this goes to
2 Question No. 3, for repairs, replacement, or other
3 work required to be performed on the Sellers Avenue
4 bridge?

5 A. I accept the recommendation of PennDOT that an
6 LMC overlay be placed on the bridge.

7 MR. POLAHA: May I deviate from the list of
8 questions for one moment?

9 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Get the evidence in on the
10 questions and then deviate.

11 MR. POLAHA: I will continue with the
12 questions.

13 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right.

14 - - - - -

15 BY MR. POLAHA:

16 Q. In your opinion, Mr. Kelly, is the existing
17 bridge adequate in strength and physical dimensions to
18 accommodate safely the class and volume of traffic
19 normally using the highway at this location, and if
20 not, describe the general nature and extent of the
21 work which you feel is necessary or advisable to
22 provide a safe and convenient crossing over the
23 Sellers Avenue bridge?

24 A. I have no opinion as to the structural
25 integrity of the bridge. I would defer to the PennDOT

1 investigation in that matter. However, it is my
2 opinion that the existing road surface that I
3 mentioned existing as it is now is not necessarily a
4 safe and convenient facility if you are traveling over
5 that bridge.

6 Q. And why, in your opinion, is the existing road
7 surface not safe?

8 A. Because of the state of disrepair that it is in
9 with potholes on the bridge surface itself, there are
10 some potholes on some of the approach areas at the
11 junction between the abutment and the bridge.

12 Q. Would you continue by describing the nature and
13 extent of the work which you feel is necessary to
14 correct this situation?

15 A. Immediate work? I would say the immediate work
16 would be some temporary facilities, overlay. As far
17 as the long-range work, I would agree with PennDOT's
18 recommendation that an LMC overlay be placed on the
19 structure.

20 Q. And according to PennDOT's time table that
21 would not occur until 1989 if it were done in
22 conjunction with the Sellers Avenue resurfacing?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Do you feel that immediate work is needed to be
25 done on the bridge surface to make it safe?

1 A. Yes, I do.

2 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Do you have any idea how much
3 the recommended short-term improvements would cost?
4 Can you state something about --

5 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

6 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Do you have any idea how much
7 that would cost?

8 THE WITNESS: Right off the top of my head,
9 no. It would be a minimal cost as compared to the
10 costs discussed today for the long-term repairs that
11 were suggested.

12 - - - - -

13 BY MR. POLAHA:

14 Q. When you referred to an overlay, are you
15 referring to a bituminous overlay?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And in your opinion, that type of overlay would
18 cure the situation for the present time until the
19 reconstruction work were done in 1989?

20 A. Yes.

21 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Would Ridley Park, if you
22 know, be willing to pay for the temporary overlay or
23 the temporary repairs, would they be willing to pay
24 for that?

25 THE WITNESS: We are not willing to pay for

1 it. However, I would say that we have in the past
2 filled potholes with material that we have used in our
3 own road system.

4 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: All right.

5 - - - - -

6 BY MR. POLAHA:

7 Q. Would the Borough of Ridley Park be willing to
8 agree to perform any work of a temporary nature or of
9 the permanent type of work presently scheduled for
10 1989 by PennDOT?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Would the Borough of Ridley Park be willing to
13 maintain the bridge in the future?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Would you describe in a little more detail the
16 actual condition of the bridge surface?

17 A. The bridge surface, as Mr. Miller testified
18 earlier, is made up of spalled concrete. In
19 someplaces the concrete is spalled all the way down to
20 the point of exposing some reenforcing rods. That is
21 evident. You can just drive over the bridge and
22 look.

23 There are some settlement at the approaches
24 that could be adjusted when the project that Mr.
25 Miller described would take place. I don't see them

1 as being extremely serious, but the potholes on the
2 bridge deck itself are serious in that they are fairly
3 deep.

4 Q. Have those potholes been filled by the Borough
5 of Ridley Park in the past?

6 A. Yes, they have.

7 Q. And has the filling of the potholes created an
8 uneven condition on the bridge surface?

9 A. It is uneven, but it is less uneven than if the
10 potholes were left unattended.

11 Q. Why, if you know, has the borough filled the
12 potholes on occasion on the Sellers Avenue bridge?

13 A. Because of complaints of the people who use the
14 bridge from within and without of the borough limits.

15 Q. Has there been some settling of the approaches
16 of the bridge as it meets the deck?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And has that settling caused an uneven
19 condition between the approaches and the deck of the
20 bridge?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And does that also add to what you have
23 described as an unsafe condition on the surface of the
24 bridge?

25 A. Yes, that certainly is a contributory factor.

1 Q. A motorist leaving the bridge, whether going
2 north or south, are there turns immediately after a
3 motorist leaves the bridge going either north or south
4 that that motorist is required to make?

5 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I suggest that you rephrase
6 that question. And I am specifically referring to the
7 term "immediately". Ask the witness how far after
8 leaving the bridge is there an intersection.

9 - - - - -

10 BY MR. POLAHA:

11 Q. Mr. Kelly, could you respond to that question?

12 A. If you are traveling from the Swarthmore
13 Avenue/Sellers Avenue intersection along Sellers
14 Avenue --

15 Q. Which direction are you going, north or south?

16 A. Generally in the north direction -- approaching
17 the bridge you would be entering the bridge from a
18 left-hand turn. At the approach to the bridge, the
19 tangent length would be approximately a hundred to 150
20 feet long.

21 Continuing along in that general direction,
22 after leaving the bridge to continue on the through
23 route to Prospect Park, within 75 feet of the abutment
24 you would be making a right-hand turn onto East Ridley
25 Avenue. However, the street itself, after the Ridley

1 Avenue intersection, would be Ward Street, and that
2 continues straight for some several hundred feet
3 before it enters into a left-hand turn.

4 Q. All right.

5 A. The bridge itself is in the middle of an S-turn
6 if you were to follow the state highway route from
7 Sellers Avenue, across the bridge.

8 Q. Do those turns add or detract from the safety
9 of the bridge?

10 A. I think that the -- during certain weather
11 conditions the turns themselves could detract from the
12 safety, because of the fact when you leave the bridge
13 most of the traffic is making a hard right turn, and
14 at the same time you are on a downgrade from the
15 bridge down to Ridley Avenue.

16 Q. Is the deck of the bridge level with the road
17 surface on either side, or is there a slight rise?

18 A. The deck of the bridge is at a high point.

19 Q. So there is a slight rise as you come off the
20 approaches onto the deck of the bridge?

21 A. As you enter the bridge you are going upgrade;
22 as you leave the bridge you are going downgrade.

23 MR. POLAHA: That's all I have.

24 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Martin, do you have any
25 questions?

1 MR. MARTIN: I have just a few questions, your
2 Honor.

3 - - - - -
4 CROSS EXAMINATION
5 - - - - -

6 BY MR. MARTIN:

7 Q. Mr. Kelly, you stated that you didn't think
8 this bridge was adequate for the safety and
9 convenience of the public. Are there any reports of
10 accidents or injury that were caused by the uneven
11 surface of this bridge?

12 A. I do not have that information.

13 Q. You indicated that you thought as a temporary
14 measure some overlay should be put on the structure.
15 Did you take a look at PennDOT's Exhibit No. 1, which
16 has been admitted into evidence? Have you seen that
17 exhibit?

18 A. No, I have not.

19 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I will let him have mine.

20 THE WITNESS: I am sorry. Yes, I did see this.

21 - - - - -
22 BY MR. MARTIN:

23 Q. That exhibit indicates that a bituminous
24 overlay would cost in the neighborhood of \$10,000 or
25 more, does it not?

1 A. Yes, it does.

2 Q. Are you asking, as a temporary measure, someone
3 to expend \$10,000 just until 1989 --

4 A. In my opinion, this would be a bituminous
5 overlay that would be done along with a lot of
6 preparatory work to make it a long-term surface
7 treatment.

8 Q. Well, you are asking for something that will
9 last at least two years. What exactly do you have in
10 mind?

11 A. I think that if the bridge surface were cleaned
12 with a mechanical broom and the overlay put on it,
13 that it would be a lot better.

14 Q. And what exactly would that cost?

15 A. I don't know.

16 Q. Can you give us a neighborhood, would it cost
17 between five and \$10,000?

18 A. If the bridge span is a hundred feet long and
19 30 feet wide, we are looking at 3,000 square feet of
20 surface. Say roughly 325 square yards. So, I would
21 guess that something like that could be done for in
22 the range of 3,000 to \$4,000.

23 Q. So you are asking 3,000 to \$4,000 worth of work
24 as a temporary measure to provide a less bumpy
25 surface, is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 MR. MARTIN: Thank you.

3 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Is that it, Mr. Martin?

4 MR. MARTIN: I have one further question, your
5 Honor.

6 - - - - -

7 BY MR. MARTIN:

8 Q. With respect to the township filling of the
9 potholes, you said the township undertook that because
10 the township received complaints.

11 A. The borough.

12 Q. The borough undertook that because the borough
13 was receiving complaints about the potholes?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Did the borough direct any of those complaints
16 to the Department of Transportation?

17 A. I think they have.

18 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: When Frank Rizzo was mayor of
19 Philadelphia he used to have signs posted on the
20 roads, this is a state highway, call PennDOT's
21 number. Then they put a wrong number on one of the
22 signs, and the poor woman that got the calls was
23 really exasperated. So do you know how Rizzo fixed
24 that? Gave her a job.

25 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. That's all

1 the questions I have.

2 THE WITNESS: You are welcome.

3 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cohen?

4 MR. COHEN: I have no questions.

5 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cipriani?

6 MR. CIPRIANI: No questions, your Honor.

7 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Stein?

8 - - - - -

9 BY MR. STEIN:

10 Q. Mr. Kelly, you said that the borough has
11 maintained the bridge by patching potholes in the
12 past, is that correct?

13 A. I said that the borough has filled potholes.

14 Q. So it has patched potholes?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And that was in response to complaints from
17 vehicle users crossing the bridge?

18 A. Yes. And pedestrians.

19 Q. And you have also said that the borough will
20 not agree to maintain the bridge in the future after
21 the repair or replacement project?

22 A. That's correct.

23 Q. Isn't it true that the deterioration of the
24 bridge is caused by car use and the deicing materials
25 used on the bridge?

1 A. Yes. That's not the sole cause, but that is
2 certainly a contributory factor.

3 Q. Isn't it true that there is no aspect of the
4 operation of trains beneath it that causes the surface
5 to deteriorate?

6 A. Yes, I would agree with that.

7 Q. So isn't it correct that the reconstruction and
8 repair work would primarily benefit the users,
9 including the people in the borough?

10 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Isn't it true that if a
11 temporary overlay project such as Mr. Martin was
12 discussing with you, wouldn't that disrupt traffic
13 twice in two years, once to do this and once to do the
14 latex modified concrete proposal a couple years later?

15 THE WITNESS: The direct answer to your
16 question is yes. But I would qualify that with the
17 statement that the overlay that I am proposing as a
18 temporary measure could be done in less than a day.

19 MR. STEIN: I have no further questions.

20 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Did I overlook anyone on
21 cross? Do you have any redirect?

22 MR. POLAHA: I do not, your Honor.

23 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Thank you very much.

24 THE WITNESS: You are welcome.

25 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Anyone here from Delaware

1 County?

2 (No audible response)

3 MR. MARTIN: Your Honor, my file shows a
4 written response from James E. DeBello, assistant
5 county solicitor, directed to yourself.

6 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Yes. I did that as a
7 precautionary measure. Let the record reflect that
8 there is no one here from Delaware County.

9 Any other interested parties or any other party
10 who wishes or desires to submit any additional or
11 relevant testimony?

12 MR. STEIN: I would like to present a witness
13 for Conrail.

14 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: I am sorry, I didn't call
15 Conrail.

16 - - - - -
17 ROGER HEEBNER, having been duly sworn,
18 was examined and testified as follows:

19 - - - - -
20 DIRECT EXAMINATION
21 - - - - -

22 BY MR. STEIN:

23 Q. Would you state your full name and spell it for
24 the record, please?

25 A. Roger Heebner. H-E-E-B-N-E-R.

1 Q. And by whom are you employed, and in what
2 capacity?

3 A. Consolidated Rail Corporation, senior civil
4 engineer.

5 Q. Are you familiar with the questions and
6 procedures in this case?

7 A. I am.

8 Q. And are you prepared to respond, and are you
9 authorized to respond, on behalf of Conrail?

10 A. Yes, I am.

11 Q. Turning to Question No. 3, what is Conrail's
12 recommendation as to the repair work necessary for
13 this bridge?

14 A. We have reviewed PennDOT's analysis of the
15 cores taken and concur with the report as presented by
16 PennDOT.

17 Q. What is Conrail's opinion as to the ability of
18 the existing bridge to carry traffic safely?

19 A. It is our opinion that the existing bridge is
20 safe to carry existing vehicular traffic.

21 Q. Will Conrail agree to perform any work or
22 assume any costs or agree to maintain any portion of
23 the structure after it is repaired or replaced?

24 A. Conrail agrees to perform no work, assume any
25 costs and does not agree to maintain any portion of

1 the structure.

2 Q. And does Conrail concur with PennDOT's
3 recommendation that the bridge be repaired with the
4 LMC overlay in 1989?

5 A. Yes, we do.

6 MR. STEIN: I have nothing further.

7 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Martin?

8 - - - - -

9 CROSS EXAMINATION

10 - - - - -

11 BY MR. MARTIN:

12 Q. Mr. Heebner, does Conrail operate trains over
13 this line?

14 A. Yes, we do.

15 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Mr. Heebner. Nothing
16 further.

17 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cohen?

18 MR. COHEN: No questions, your Honor.

19 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Mr. Cipriani?

20 MR. CIPRIANI: No questions, your Honor.

21 - - - - -

22 BY MR. POLAHA:

23 Q. Mr. Heebner, have you performed any inspections
24 of the bridge?

25 A. No, sir.

1 Q. Has anyone in your department performed any
2 inspections of the bridge?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Have you or anyone in your department performed
5 an inspection of the bridge surface?

6 A. No.

7 Q. So you don't have any independent information,
8 other than from what you have seen in PennDOT's
9 report, concerning the bridge and the condition of the
10 bridge?

11 A. That's correct.

12 MR. POLAHA: That's all I have, your Honor.

13 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Do you have any redirect?

14 MR. STEIN: No, your Honor.

15 JUDGE FOUNTAIN: Thank you. All right, we are
16 finished with the questions, except to ask if any
17 interested party or any other party desires to submit
18 any additional and relevant testimony? I take it
19 there is no other interested party or any other party
20 who wants to submit any further relevant testimony?

21 Thank you, gentlemen.

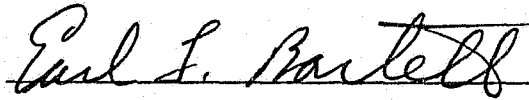
22 - - - - -

23 (Whereupon, the Hearing
24 was concluded at 11:25 a.m.)

25 - - - - -

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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4 I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings and
5 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
6 stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing
7 matter on May 28, 1987, and that this is a correct
8 transcript of same.
9

10
11
12  _____

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14 Earl L. Bartell
15
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17
18
19

20 (The foregoing certification of this transcript
21 does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any
22 means unless under the direct control and/or
23 supervision of the certifying reporter.)
24
25

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

200 Radnor Chester Road
St. Davids, PA 19087
March 1, 1985



IN REPLY REFER TO

JJR:KTH
Delaware County
L.R. 180, Spur C
Sellers Avenue Over SEPTA Railroad

Mr. Larry J. Wygant, Borough Manager
Borough of Ridley Park
Ridley Park, Pennsylvania 19078

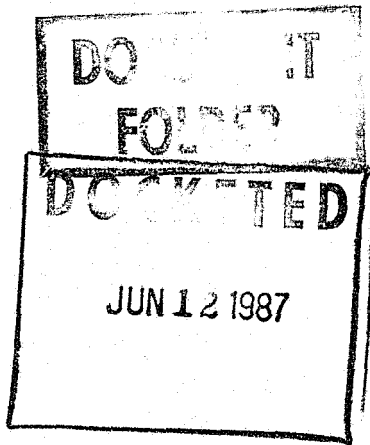
Dear Mr. Wygant:

Thank you for your letter of February 18, 1985 concerning the deck condition of the bridge on Sellers Avenue (L.R. 180, Spur C) over the SEPTA Railroad in Ridley Park.

Our bridge inspector's report noted some potholes in the bituminous concrete bridge deck surface were patched recently. Settlement on the north approach slab of the bridge deck may be causing heavy trucks to create a vibrating sensation as they pass on to the bridge. There were no heavy trucks crossing this bridge while our inspector made observations for thirty minutes during one recent afternoon. This would indicate that very few heavy trucks are using the bridge.

I will recommend that the immediate approaches to the bridge be repaved to reduce the irregular riding surface between the roadway and the bridge deck.

Our Department has no plans to repair the bridge deck. If the riding surface of the bridge continues to be a problem, I suggest you bring the matter to the attention of the Public Utility Commission for a determination of maintenance responsibility and direction of repairs.



Very truly yours,

Robert L. Rowland, P.E.
District Engineer

C-850414
Ridley Park I
Earl Bartell
5-28-87
Media