

761—115.14(306A) Freeways.**115.14(1) Access to utility facilities occupying freeway right-of-way.**

a. Except for emergency work, access shall not be obtained from the freeway or its ramps during utility construction or maintenance operations. This means that access must be obtained from intersecting, adjacent or nearby public highways, streets, roads or trails or from private property. See subrules 115.9(3) and 115.19(2) for emergency work.

b. Fence removal and replacement are subject to the limitations imposed by the permit.

c. No gates or ladders shall be placed in or upon the right-of-way fence.

d. The department shall notify the FHWA of any access it authorizes to the interstate system for utility work.

115.14(2) Freeway clear zone requirements. The clear zone requirements of subrule 115.5(5) apply to freeways. In addition:

a. On freeways open to traffic, personnel, equipment or materials are not allowed in the median or within the clear zone area, right-of-way width permitting, during utility facility construction or maintenance operations, except for the stringing of transverse overhead conductors.

b. In the interest of safety and when considered advisable, the district representative may authorize the placement of temporary poles in the median during cable or conductor stringing operations.

115.14(3) Aboveground appurtenances. Unless otherwise provided, aboveground appurtenances are not allowed within the right-of-way of freeways.

115.14(4) Existing facilities.

a. A utility facility occupying land that subsequently becomes freeway right-of-way may remain within the right-of-way if the facility:

(1) Can be accessed from other than the freeway or its ramps.

(2) Does not adversely affect the safety, design, construction, operation, maintenance or stability of the freeway.

b. If these conditions are not met, the facility shall be relocated.