

Upgrade and Reconfigure Corwith Interlocking and Remote CN Corwith Tower

CREATE Project WA5



New signal bridge installed at Corwith Yard as part of CREATE improvements.

Project Benefits

The upgrade and reconfiguration of the Corwith Interlocking and new signal bridge provide significant benefits to trains moving in and out of BNSF's Corwith Yard, one of the busiest intermodal yards in the nation handling 800,000 domestic and international containers per year. Corwith Yard is the easternmost point for BNSF's transcontinental route from Los Angeles to Chicago, the busiest intermodal route in the nation, and the location where trains are assembled to connect with CSX and NS for destinations to the East. The improvements increase fluidity and reliability in and out of the yard and enable train lengths at the connection with NS and CSXT to be increased from 5,400 feet to 8,000 feet.

As a result of this project, train speeds through the interlocking are increased, and the speed of interchanges between BNSF and its partner railroads is improved. The number of trains that can be handled in the yard has been increased from 122 to 134 per day. Switch problems, which were a particular issue during cold weather, have been eliminated due to the improvements. Freight movements are also improved into and from the BNSF Willow Springs Intermodal facility servicing the major UPS distribution facility in Hodgkins, Illinois.