Assignment D2-7-18 Develop Recommendations for Ballast Electrical Resistivity

Assignment:

Add commentary to the manual about ballast electrical resistivity.

Add bullet point u to section 2.10.3 COMMENTARY

Currently the commentary is a collection of thoughts on ballast type, testing, selection, etc. An additional bullet point with commentary on electrical resistivity is desired to be added to this section as point u. The text in red is proposed to be added to the manual. A review of existing guidance found that though there is a test for measuring resistivity, there are no know/defendable thresholds for pass/fail criteria.

2.10.3 Commentary

u. Certain ballast materials with higher metal content may have higher conductivity than other materials. Higher ballast conductivity can potentially cause issues with signal, crossing, and other systems that depend on passing a circuit through the rails. Engineers should consult with Communications and Signal employees to determine if a particular ballast material may interfere with the proper functioning of signal, crossing, and other systems.