



NP10 Protecting Work from Rail Traffic on the Adjacent Track

NP10 - 1.0 Introduction

The Possession Officer and/or Track Protection Officer must decide on the best means to reduce the risk from rail traffic on the adjacent track.

NP10 - 2.0 Risk Reduction Methods

If the safety assessment identifies the need, the Possession Officer and/or Track Protection Officer must implement one or more of the following to reduce the risk:

Track Occupancy Authority

A Track Occupancy Authority may be taken out over an adjacent track to exclude rail traffic in accordance with the rule;
[WT03 - Track Occupancy Authority (TOA)].

Standing Train Protection

Standing Train Protection with 3 Step Protection applied may be taken out over adjacent track to exclude rail traffic in accordance with the rule;
[WT06 – Standing Train Protection].

Lookout Protection

Lookout Protection may be used on the adjacent track to warn of rail traffic approaching in accordance with the rule *[WT07 - Lookout Protection]*. Workers must move to a safe place for the rail traffic to pass.

Electronic Protection

Electronic Protection in accordance with the rule *[WT05 – Electronic Protection]* may be used for limited activities and short periods of protection of the adjacent track, such as inspecting rail vehicles, inspecting points or shunting.

Demarcation Fencing

Approved demarcation fencing may be used. Demarcation fencing is an easily seen, continuous boundary marker. It cannot stop workers from leaving the worksite. It is only a visual warning that a boundary exists. Rail



Network Procedures

traffic passes demarcation fencing at a reduced speed for the length of the boundary.

NP10 - 3.0 Requesting Adjacent Track Protection

Competent Worker

- 1 Contact the Rail Controller and request adjacent track protection.
- 2 Confirm the location of the adjacent track protection is required in accordance with the procedure *[NP09 - Identification and Verification of Location]*
- 3 Agree with the Rail Controller on the type of adjacent track protection to be applied.

Rail Controller

- 4 Confirm the location requiring protection in accordance with the procedure *[NP09 - Identification and Verification of Location]*
- 5 Make sure any rail traffic is clear of the adjacent track and apply the agreed type of protection to the adjacent track.

Competent Worker

- 6 Confirm with the Rail Controller that the adjacent track is clear of rail traffic and adjacent track protection has been applied.

NP10 - 3.1 Adjacent Track Occupied

When rail traffic is on the adjacent section and cannot be permitted to proceed (e.g. stopped adjacent to a train that has had an emergency or penalty brake application):

Driver / Qualified Person

- 1 Request adjacent track protection.
- 2 Confirm with the Rail Controller:
 - rail traffic within the adjacent section is at a stand



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- signals for adjacent track section are placed at STOP
- electronic blocking has been applied.

3 Request 3 Step Protection from the driver / operator of the rail vehicle on the adjacent track.

Rail Controller

4 Confirm that rail traffic on the adjacent track:

- is stopped
- 3 Step Protection has been applied

5 Ensure signals for the adjacent track section are placed at STOP; and

6 Apply electronic blocking.



Where possible, prior to authorising adjacent track protection for shunting or assisting a disabled train (e.g. to detach a defective car), the rail controller must wait for the adjacent section to be CLEAR of rail traffic.



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NP10 - 3.2 Rail Movement on the Adjacent Track

When a rail movement is to occur on the adjacent track:

Rail Controller

- 1 Advise the driver and / or workers of intended rail vehicle movement.
- 2 Confirm that the driver and / or workers are in a safe place and adjacent track protection is no longer required.
- 3 Confirm 3 Step Protection has been released.
- 4 Remove electronic blocking; and
- 5 Allow rail vehicle movement to occur.

NP10 - 4.0 Using Demarcation Fencing

Track Protection Officer

- 1 Put protection in place to protect the workers before installing demarcation fencing.
- 2 Make sure that the demarcation fencing is installed before commencing work.
- 3 Make sure the demarcation fencing can withstand the disturbance by the passing rail traffic.
- 4 Keep workers and equipment on the protected side of the demarcation fencing.
- 5 If necessary, place a Site Warden to make sure that other workers stay within the demarcation fencing.
- 6 Make sure the demarcation fencing is always in good order.



Network Procedures

NP10 - 5.0 Related Documents

Rule *[SS04 – Blocking Facilities]*

Rule *[WT03 – Track Occupancy Authority (TOA)]*

Rule *[WT05 – Electronic Protection]*

Rule *[WT06 – Standing Train Protection]*

Rule *[WT07 – Lookout Protection]*

Procedure *[NP09 – Using Identification and Verification of Location]*

Manual *[Rail Traffic Operations]*

NP10 - 6.0 Effective Date

10 September 2022