

NATIONAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

Form: F3.27A

TRANSFERRABLE LESSONS FROM SERIOUS OPERATIONAL INCIDENTS / INVESTIGATIONS

Issue: 01

Date: 02/09/17

Issue:

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NR/OPS/

71

Date:

25/10/19

Line Blockage Irregularity TVSC, Didcot, Stoke Gifford work station.



Summary:

On Sunday 29th September 2019, a Signaller in TVSC, granted a blockage to a COSS at Bristol Parkway. The line blockage was taken in a different order than what was originally planned. Additional protection was not requested or planned for this particular line blockage. Ultimately, having already granted the line blockage, the signaller failed to notice that the protecting signal was still showing a proceed aspect with a train already signalled toward the line blockage limits.

With just 43 seconds to spare until the train would have passed the site of work, the signaller realised their mistake and urgently contacted the COSS who was fortunately at the far extremities of the line blockage.

Upon investigation it was found the signaller failed in their responsibility to place BL1505 signal to danger and apply a reminder appliance despite completing the NR3180 to the contrary.

Learning points & further considerations to take:

- **Always** double check that the protecting signal(s) are at danger and reminders are applied before completing the NR3180 and issuing an authority number.

NTS: Conscientiousness

- **Always** offer additional protection (where available) to the person requesting the line blockage - even if additional protection is not planned. **NTS: Planning & Decision making**

- **Always** 'Take 5' for Safety. Track workers rely on your vigilance to ensure they get home safe everyday. **NTS: Attention Management**



Passenger.
Front line.
Today, tomorrow
and the future.

