

Safety Bulletin

An Operating Irregularity has taken place



Issued to: Southern Region
Reference: Operational Close Call
Date of Issue: 3rd June 2020
Location: Southampton and Millbrook -
Line of Route BML 2, (Wessex
Route)
Contact: Wessex Access Planning and
Delivery Team



Overview

A possession published in Wessex WON Week 07 Item 81A Supplement 1, was booked to take place between Southampton and Millbrook from 00:05hrs to 04:40hrs on Thursday 21st May 2020.

The Duty ODM was informed by the PICOP at 02:26 that the Possession Support Staff (PSS) had placed the detonator protection on the Up Main Line at Millbrook, 'on the approach' of E548pts instead of 'beyond the points'. Additionally, the detonator protection on the Down Main Line & Arrival Road was placed too close to E549pts, causing an obstruction to shunt movements between the Millbrook Freightliner and the Maritime Freightliner.

Before the Duty ODM reached the site, the PSS lifted the detonator protection without the PICOP's permission and placed it on the correct side of the points, leaving the roads and himself unprotected so that the shunt movement could be completed.

The PSS, an experienced individual, had all the required paperwork well in advance and had been briefed accordingly by the PICOP.

This incident is under further investigation.

Discussion Points and Lessons Learnt

- Being focused and paying attention to details and referring to all associated paperwork in order to manage tasks safely and effectively
- Authority from the PICOP or Signaller must be sought before removal of any incorrectly placed detonator protection.
- Take 5 and always question/seek confirmation if something is unclear.

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