

Safety Bulletin

An Operating Irregularity has taken place



Issued to: Southern Region
Reference: Operational Close Call
Date of Issue 7th July 2020
Location: Approach to Totton Level Crossing at Totton on the BML2, (Wessex Route)
Contact: Wessex Access Planning and Delivery Team



Overview

A possession published in Wessex WON Week 14 Item 65 was booked to take place between Redbridge Junction, Totton and Sway from 00:25hrs to 05:15hrs on Tuesday 7th July 2020.

The PICOP made arrangement for Tamper 6J07 to exit the possession. At 04:36hrs, due to poor mobile phone signal, he gave authority to the Signaller at Brockenhurst to pass on instruction to the Tamper Driver, to make his way from BH367 Signal down to the detonator protection on the Up Main line at Redbridge.

Upon giving the instruction, the PICOP failed to mention the arrangements for Totton Level Crossing. Fortunately, due to the Driver's route knowledge, he realised the error and came to a stand at E784 Signal approaching the Level Crossing.

The PICOP, once aware of the error, contacted the Eastleigh Signaller to request assistance in lowering of the level crossing barriers, to allow the tamper to continue on its path to the detonator protection. He then reported the Operational Close Call to the Duty Outer ODM.

This incident is under further investigation.

Discussion Points and Lessons Learnt

- Being focused and paying attention to details when carrying out safety related tasks.
- Ensuring full understanding is reached and all appropriate processes are followed.
- Discussion of relevant train movements within possessions during PICOP briefs, including level crossing arrangements.
- Take 5 and always question/seek confirmation if something is unclear.

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