

NATIONAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

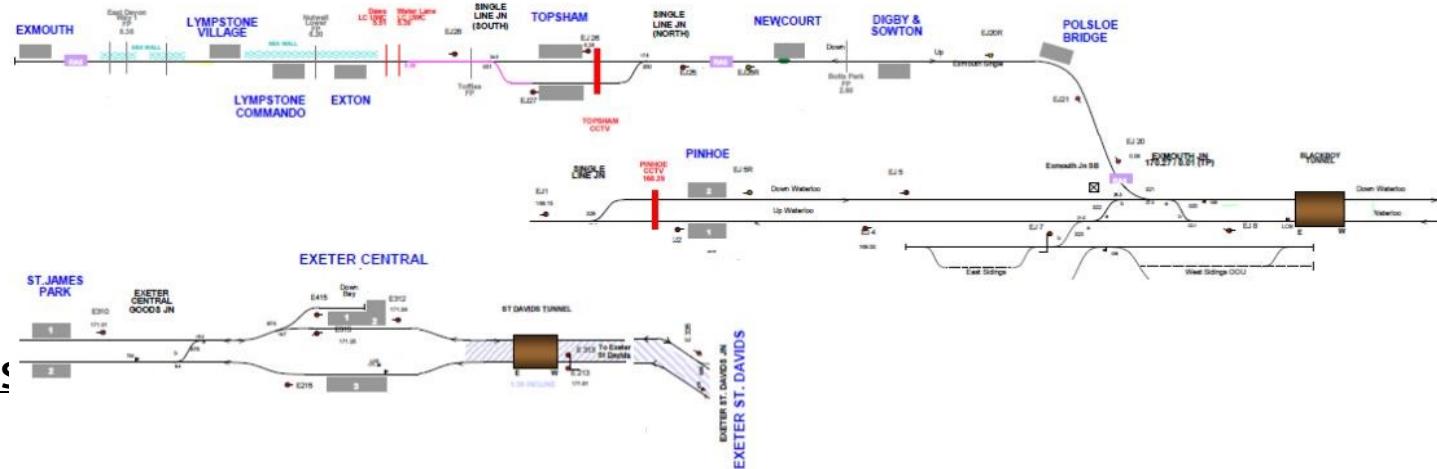
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Exmouth Junction T3 Irregularity



20/10/2020 Exmouth Junction signaller granted a possession of a line when a line blockage of the Exmouth single line was already in place. The possession was amended in the supplement to include the Exmouth branch line and closer to Exeter St David's, overlapping the existing line blockage. The signaller could not locate the WON Supplement and therefore was not aware the possession limits had changed. Searching for the supplement caused a short delay and without success in finding the supplement, the signaller felt under pressure to grant the possession but crucially did not check the extended limits.

Communication protocols were correct, though the signaller's thought process was conditioned to the possession limits first published in the WON and did not take into account the change of limits in the supplement.

Learning Points:

1. **ALWAYS** check the WON, or WON-SUP and late change Wires when taking duty
2. **NEVER** assume that possession arrangements will be the same just because they have been published in a certain way for a period of time.
3. **ALWAYS** allow yourself adequate time to go through the details with the PICOP/COSS
4. **ALWAYS Take 5** – Never allow yourself to be pressurised to give authority to start work without having opportunity to check to make sure the details are right.

