

# Safety Bulletin

An Operating Irregularity has taken place



**Issued to:** All route functions, line mangers and staff including contractors, Wessex Route

**Reference:** Operational Close Call

**Date of Issue** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Location:** Salisbury Station Area - Line of Route BAE1, (Wessex Route)

**Contact:** Wessex Access Planning and Delivery Team



## Overview

A possession published in Wessex WON Week 02 Item 104 and Supplement 1, was booked to take place between Salisbury and Tisbury / Beechgrove GF and Wilton Junction from 23:40hrs Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to 09:45hrs on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

The Possession Support Staff (PSS) had the associated paperwork well in advance and had been briefed accordingly by the responsible PICOP. The PSS had undertaken similar tasks many times without issues.

At 00:13hrs (Sunday), the Duty Outer ODM was informed by the Wessex Integrated Control Centre (WICC) that the Signaller at Salisbury noticed that the Possession Limit Board (PLB) and Detonator protection on the Up Main Line at Salisbury station had been placed the wrong side of the protecting signal SY46, beyond SY46 vice on the approach.

Additionally, the PICOP incorrectly believed that the Signaller had granted the PSS additional protection to move the detonator protection and instructed the ES for worksite Bravo to shorten the worksite in order to allow the PSS to move the protection to the correct side of the signal.

Before the Duty ODM got to site, the PSS had lifted the incorrectly placed protection with the authority of the PICOP but without appropriate protection from the Signaller (Line Blockage).

In order to correct the mistake, the detonator protection had been removed by the PSS and placed on the correct side of the signal SY46, leaving the line and the individual unprotected.

**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.
- Always Take 5 and seek confirmation if something is unclear, never assume.
- If PLB and detonator protection has been placed incorrectly, ensure the correct procedure is followed before moving it to the correct location – specifically that permission is given by the signaller and PICOP and the line is protected.
- When planning substandard worksite/possession, you must ensure suitable distance for placing of the PLB and detonator protection.

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