

12 December 2017

Recent incidents involving the application of the Absolute Signal Blocking (ASB) method of working have highlighted a number of failures to adhere to the requirements of NWT 308 and associated procedures, putting at risk the safety of workers.

Therefore in addition to the requirements of the Network Rules and Procedures all Supervisors and Managers are to remind qualified workers of the following:



Signallers

- As far as practicable, avoid distractions and disruptions that would interrupt the process of issuing the ASB to the Protection officer.
- Double check to ensure you have applied blocks to *all* points of entry into the stated ASB limits.
- Seek confirmation from the protection Officer that the ASB limits, the extent of the proposed worksite and the protection provided are clearly understood.

Protection Officers

- Be clear on the limit required before requesting the ASB from the Signaller.
- Make sure that all workers who will be working within the ASB limits are provided with a briefing on protection arrangements and understand all safety measures.
- If protection arrangements are to change (eg temporary suspension of ASB), make sure all workers are advised before such changes are agreed with the signaller.
- The Protection Officer who obtains the ASB is responsible for all workers who work within the authorised limits of the ASB.

Remember your actions can impact the safety of you and your colleagues. If you are unsure, do not access the Danger Zone, but first seek advice and make sure you are absolutely clear about the safe arrangements before you proceed.



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