

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Safety.387/Fly Leaf/08/2024

Fly Leaf No.08/ 2024

Attention..... All Concerned

Pre-arranged Power Block.

(Extract from ACTM, Vol. II, Part – I. Para Nos. 20612 – 20613.)

Procedure for Obtaining Traffic or Power Blocks and Permits-to-work :

1. Officials in the electrified area who require prearranged traffic blocks, power blocks or permits-to work in the danger zone of traction equipment, or who require OHE and or bonding staff to be present at site for scheduled maintenance works, shall deliver at the office of Sr. DEE (TrD) not later than 10 hours on the first working day of the week statements in the prescribed form showing-
 - a. The nature of the work and the date on which it is to be performed;
 - b. By whom the work is to be carried out;
 - c. Location of the work and the section of the lines to be blocked;
 - d. The trains between which the block is required; and
 - e. Whether the track will be available for steam or diesel traffic.
2. The requirements of all departments will be co-ordinated in the office of Sr. DEE (TrD) and a consolidated statement forwarded to the Senior Divisional Operating Manager concerned, by 12 hours on every Wednesday, for inclusion in the weekly programme of traffic and power blocks.
3. Works of an urgent nature shall be attended to by obtaining emergency blocks and permits-to-work from TPC.
4. A weekly programme of work involving traffic blocks, power blocks and permits-to-work shall be prepared in the office of Sr. DOM and dispatched to all concerned (TPC, TLC, Loco Sheds, Station Masters/Yard Masters concerned and Traffic Controller in addition to the departmental officials who asked for the blocks).
5. Most of the traction sub-stations have two sets of traction power transformers and associated switch gear. Maintenance of equipment of the traction sub-station, therefore, does not necessitate total shut down of 25 kV supply at each sub-station. Whenever any maintenance or breakdown is to be attended in the traction sub-station, the permit to work should be obtained by the supervisor in-charge from the TPC and after completing the work, the permit to work should be returned by the Supervisor in-charge to the TPC. Similarly at the switching stations normally the alternative feed is available to the concerned sub-sector and therefore, does not necessitate the power block but only a permit to work should be obtained from the TPC and after completion of the work, the same should be returned to the TPC. In case of attending to the gantry of a switching station, complete block of the switching station is required for which power block has to be taken from the TPC.

Pre-arranged Power Block :

After a prearranged power block has been agreed to be granted and an advice to this effect circulated to all the concerned, the following gives the detailed procedure to be adopted by the Section Controller and the TPC for granting the power block. Assume that power block is required on the Up line between station and on Elementary Section No. at 10:00 hours after the passage of a specified Up train (say 'X'):-

1. On the scheduled day about two hours before the block period, i.e., at about 8:00 hours, TPC will obtain confirmation from the Section Controller concerned that the trains are running

to time and power block will be available as, scheduled, after the Train No. 'X' UP has passed station at about 10:00 hrs.

2. The TPC will pass on information to the JE of the maintenance gang that the power block, as already arranged, will be available in time.
3. The maintenance gang should arrange to leave the depot in time with all materials and tools so as to be ready at site at about 9:30 hrs. The OHE staff (in charge of the work) on arrival at site should immediately contact the TPC and inform him of their arrival. Any person detailed to open an isolator switch for switching off power supply shall also report to TPC of his arrival at site at the required location. The maintenance gang should carry at least two portable telephone sets and the necessary earthing pole assembly along with them while proceeding to do maintenance work on the OHE.
4. The TPC should maintain continuous contact with the OHE staff at site.
5. As soon 'X' UP clears the Up track between and Section Controller should inform Station Master on duty at all stations concerned to arrange for "longitudinal" and "cross" protection as laid down in Station Working Rules (see Paras 20621 to 20626).
6. The Station Master shall ensure that the protection as specified in the Station Working Rules is carried out and confirm it to the Section Controller with exchange of Private Numbers.
7. The Section Controller on receipt of assurances from the concerned Station Masters will advise TPC that the power block may be given.
8. If the power block message is given by TPC in the prescribed printed form the Section Controller will sign the same and send it to the TPC; if it is given over the telephone, the Section Controller will grant the power block through a message with exchange of Private Numbers.
9. On receipt of the above message TPC will open the interrupters concerned and issue messages to the field staff for operation of the required isolators. On receipt of the confirmatory message that the isolators have been opened, TPC will close the interrupters restoring power supply to all parts, except over the particular elementary section where work has to be done. He will then issue a permit-to-work message in the prescribed form to the authorized person in charge of the maintenance gang.
10. The maintenance gang will start the work after taking necessary safety precautions to protect themselves, viz., by earthing, display of banner flags etc. as detailed in General and Subsidiary Rules.
11. *Note:* On sections with automatic signalling, the signals may be at danger due to earthing of OHE with the rails during the period of the power block. The Station Master shall issue necessary authority as per rules for steam, and diesel trains when these are permitted to be moved over the section under power block.

Restoration of Supply after a Permit-to-work is returned :

On completion of the work, the person who received the permit-to-work shall ensure that -

1. All men and materials have been withdrawn from the electrical equipment and its vicinity,
2. All earths provided for the protection of the working parties have been removed; and
3. All staff, who have been deputed to work, are warned that the power supply is to be restored.

He should then inform TPC by a message, supported by Private Number that the work, for which the permit-to-work was issued, has been completed, the men and materials have been withdrawn from the specified section, the earths have been removed and power supply may be restored to the section. This shall constitute cancellation of the permit-to-work previously obtained.

SAFETY ORGANISATION

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY