

Operation of “Track Vehicles” within an LPA

Purpose:

This SAFE Notice has been issued to provide guidance on the movement and management of road-rail / track vehicle(s) within a Local Possession Authority (LPA). The instructions provided in this SAFE Notice will only apply when a Local Possession Authority (LPA) is authorised for MTS Maintenance activities which involve the use of “track vehicles”.

This Safe Notice CANCELS and SUPERSEDES SAFE NOTICE 2025 - 021 and is valid from 15 JUNE 2026 until 11 DECEMBER 2026

Introduction: For the purpose of this SAFE Notice:

- all road-rail / track vehicles will be classified as “track vehicles”

General instructions:

Within an LPA, all “track vehicles” must be provided with a Protection Officer (PO) to act as a Pilot as shown in MPR 710 “Piloting rail traffic”.

Managing “track vehicles” within an LPA

In exception to *MWT 316 – Track Vehicles* and *MSG 608 Passing Signals at STOP*, the Possession Protection Officer (PPO) may request a “global” authority from the Traffic Controller (TC) to pass Point Position Indicators (PPIs) at STOP within the limits of the Local Possession Authority (LPA).

Before any track vehicle movement commences within the LPA, the assigned Protection Officer/Pilot must obtain movement authority from the PPO. The movement authority must include both of the following components:

- 1) an authority to commence the movement; and***
- 2) an agreed limit of authority, including the defined location or limit to which the track vehicle is authorised to travel based on what is known about the condition of the affected portion of track.***

The Protection Officer/Pilot must not commence the movement until both components have been obtained from the PPO and confirmed with the Rail Traffic Operator.

Where the PPO has obtained “global” authority from the TC, the PPO may authorise the Protection Officer/Pilot to pass multiple PPIs at STOP, provided each movement remains within the approved movement authority and confirmed limit of authority.

Issued by:

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MTS