



BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS & TRAINMEN

GENERAL COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT Canadian National - Wisconsin Central Ltd *Including former DM&IR, DWP and EJ&E Railways*

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BLET Members
CN/WC:

The Carrier recently informed us that they are cancelling previously granted PLDs and SDVs purportedly due to a major mainline derailment between Winnipeg and Toronto. As a result of this incident the Carrier plans to run six to eight detour trains each direction per day between Winnipeg and Chicago. I have been told this could continue through the week of February 23rd.

I know that all of you are as outraged about this as I am, and rightly so. It is my position that PLDs and SDVs cannot be cancelled once they are requested and approved in accordance with Article 20 (C) and Article 22, Section 12 (D) of the Schedule Agreement. You will need to file a grievance stand-alone claim using the following template language:

Cancelled PLD

Claiming a penalty day, in addition to all other earnings, account PLD requested on [date], and approved by [name] on [date] was subsequently rescinded on [date] by [name]. This was a violation of Article 20 (C) of the Schedule Agreement.

Cancelled SDV

Claiming a penalty day, in addition to all other earnings, account SDV requested on [date], and approved by [name] on [date] was subsequently rescinded on [date] by [name]. This was a violation of Article 22, Section 12 (D) of the Schedule Agreement.

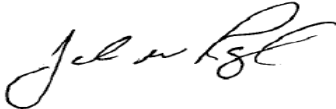
Upon learning of this outrage, I immediately placed the Carrier on notice that these cancellations violated the Agreement. In response to our defending the integrity of our Agreement, the Carrier retaliated by conjuring up a new, and incorrect, interpretation of Article 20, refusing to grant *any* PLD requests until 48 hours prior to the desired day(s) off. Of course, limiting approvals to this window violates Article 20 (D), which provides that "...the Company *shall* approve applications on the basis of the order they were received *except no application may be submitted more than six months in advance...*" (Emphasis added).

Where the Carrier refuses to allow PLD requests within the allotment more than 48 hours prior to the desired day(s) off, please file a claim using the following template:

Claiming a penalty day, in addition to all other earnings, account Carrier refused to schedule a PLD day requested on [date] for [date]. This was a violation of Article 20 (D).

This dastardly attack on such a key element of our members' lifestyles cannot go unchallenged, and it is very important for everyone to monitor this situation closely, and file claims for every violation that occurs.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John W. Reynolds".

John W. Reynolds
General Chairman – CN/WC, BLET