



# 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:

As most of you must be aware, an incident occurred at Fond du Lac while a crew was switching on November 15, 2016. This incident resulted in the engineer be withheld from service until the investigation was held. The findings of the investigation resulted in the engineer receiving a thirty-three (33) days actual suspension from service for allegedly violating USOR - Rule 0600 - Switching Safely and Efficiently.

The incident occurred when the crew kicked a loaded car of scrap metal into track 67 from the north end of the Fond Du Lac Yard. The car rolled through track 67 and collided with a loaded LP gas car that was sitting on the Marsh Line waiting to depart.

Approximately two (2) hours before the incident occurred the engineer and his crew was notified that track 67 was going to be cleared off. The engineer was never notified when track 67 was actually a clear track. The engineer received a kick signal via radio from his crew and was unaware of what track the car was being kicked into and that it was a clear track.

Advise your members to review USOR - Rule 0600 – Switching Safely and Efficiently, which states:

***600. SWITCHING SAFELY AND EFFICIENTLY.*** While switching, employees must work safely and efficiently, avoiding delay and damage to lading, equipment, structures or other property. Precautions must be taken to prevent unintended rollbacks that can foul other tracks or equipment.

*Before working, a job briefing must be conducted covering the following:*

- movements to be made,*
- movements of other crews switching in the area, and*
- type of point protection required for shoving movements.*

The Carrier has been intensively efficiency testing and have alleged many failures, resulting in numerous investigations and resultant discipline. The Carrier is very serious about rules compliance. Everyone needs to notice the Carrier's warnings, follow their instructions, and govern themselves accordingly.

Fraternally,

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

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