

ANSY 514

Special Proceed Authority

Applicability

NSW

SMS

Publication Requirement

External Only

Document Status

Issue/Revision #	Effective from
2.1	13 December 2021

Purpose

To prescribe the rules for using a *Special Proceed Authority* (SPA) in the *Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) NSW Network*.

Method principle

A SPA *may* be used to *authorise rail traffic* movements that are not otherwise permitted under the *system of Safeworking* normally in operation.

A SPA *must*:

- specify the limits for the movements that it authorises, and
- specify the line to be used, but not specify *routes* within *yard limits* of *controlled locations* and *remotely controlled locations*.

A SPA *may*:

- include more than one *section* within its limits
- allow removal of a *train* in portions from a section.

Network Control Officers *must*:

- not authorise conflicting *occupancies* or routes, and
- make sure that planned movements are safe.

Method description

Rail traffic must *travel* at speeds consistent with the conditions that caused the SPA to be *issued*.

Assurances

The *Network Controller* must make sure or be assured that:

- the SPA area, excluding attended *interlockings*, will be occupied only by authorised rail traffic for the period of the SPA, and
- *effective communication* is established, and
- prior *Proceed Authorities* have been *cancelled* or *fulfilled*, and
- unless authorised by the Network Controller, *intermediate* signal boxes and *local control panels* in affected sections are not switched in or out while the SPA is in force, and
- current *work on track authorities* in affected sections are cancelled or fulfilled, or worksites are protected against movements under the SPA, and
- obstructions are protected, and
- if necessary, *facing points* have been or will be clipped and locked by a *Competent Worker*.

The Network Controller must get the *Network Control Officer's* assurance or make sure that unauthorised rail traffic is prevented from entering the SPA area.

Network Controllers and Network Control Officer's must make sure that:

- protecting signals are at STOP with *blocking facilities* applied, and either
- releasing switches for *intermediate sidings* are in the NORMAL position with blocking facilities applied, or
- if blocking facilities cannot be applied, trains or *track vehicles* will be *restrained* by giving relevant *Drivers* and *track vehicle operators*:
 - a Condition Affecting the Network (CAN) form (ANRF 004), or
 - where provided, by electronic transmission using the In-Cab Equipment.

Proceed Authority

Only the Network Controller may authorise travel under a SPA.

SPAs must be issued:

- on a Special Proceed Authority form (ANRF 005) in Rail Vehicle Detection and Staff and Ticket territories, or
- on a Train Order form (ANRF 009) in TMACS Train Order territory, or
- where provided, by electronic transmission using the In-Cab Equipment.

If available, signals within the limits of the SPA must be cleared. Drivers and track vehicle operators must pass signals at STOP only:

- if so authorised in the SPA, or
- in accordance with Rule *ANSG 608 Passing signals at STOP*.

Issuing a Special Proceed Authority

The Network Controller must arrange for a SPA to be issued to:

- Drivers and track vehicle operators carrying out the authorised movements, and
- Network Control Officer's, at attended locations and for remotely controlled locations, involved in the authorised movements.

Before issuing a SPA, the Network Control Officer must arrange for workers known to be on the affected portion of line to be told about the authorised movements.

Network Control Officers must record, in *permanent form*:

- the issue of a SPA, and
- details of affected workers told about the authorised movements.

Travel through and beyond a controlled location or a remotely controlled location

If a SPA authorises a movement through and beyond a controlled location, or a remotely controlled location, the Driver or track vehicle operator:

- must not pass the arrival-end yard limit, in the direction of travel, of the *location*, until authorised by the Network Control Officer, and
- follow the directions of the Network Control Officer for the location.

Cancelling or fulfilling a Special Proceed Authority

A SPA must be cancelled only if:

- the Network Controller is assured that the authorised movement has not started or has not been completed, and
- affected Competent Workers have been told that the SPA will be cancelled.

A SPA must be fulfilled only if:

- the Network Controller is assured that the authorised movement has been completed, and
- affected Competent Workers have been told that the SPA will be fulfilled.

Removing blocking facilities and point clips

A SPA must be cancelled or fulfilled only if the Network Controller has been assured that, unless they are required for a subsequent movement:

- blocking facilities will be removed, and
- *point* clips and locks have been, or will be, removed as directed.

Related ARTC Network Procedures

ANPR 707	Clipping points
ANPR 721	Spoken and written communication
ANPR 746	Authorising rail traffic to pass an absolute signal at STOP

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13 December 2021