

# Part E - Environmental Protection

## Explanatory Note

- A. *Part E is concerned with environmental protection. Train Operators are required to notify Network Rail of any materials they propose to transport which would, by virtue of their nature or the quantity transported, be likely to give rise to Environmental Damage if they were to escape, and are required to provide Network Rail with a copy of any relevant authority for their carriage (such as a licence or certificate of registration).*
- B. *Network Rail and Train Operators must promptly notify each other of any circumstances which are reasonably foreseeable as likely to give rise to Environmental Damage.*
- C. *Where Network Rail becomes aware or is given a direction by a competent authority that as a direct or indirect result of the activities of a Train Operator, Environmental Damage has occurred or is likely to occur and action is required to prevent, mitigate or remedy that damage, it must make an assessment on the best information available to it at that time as to which of Network Rail and the Train Operators using that part of the Network is or are the most appropriate persons to take such action.*
- D. *In making its assessment, Network Rail is obliged to have due regard to certain specified criteria. Network Rail is further obliged to give notice to affected Train Operators within specified time limits of its decision and the reasons therefore. If an affected Train Operator disagrees with Network Rail's assessment, it may appeal in accordance with the ADRR.*
- E. *If a Train Operator fails to take any action required of it to prevent, remedy or mitigate Environmental Damage within a reasonable time or to the reasonable satisfaction of Network Rail or otherwise in cases of urgency, provisions exist for Network Rail to take the necessary action.*
- F. *Subject to Network Rail having complied with conditions F4 and G5 (respectively Vehicle and Network Change imposed by competent authorities) and to having given to all affected Train Operators as much notice as shall be reasonably practicable, Network Rail has the right to restrict track access on a temporary basis where necessary to deal with Environmental Damage but must use its reasonable endeavours to minimise those restrictions.*
- G. *This Explanatory Note does not form part of the Network Code.*

## DEFINITIONS

In this Part E, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Environmental Condition"

means:

- (a) Any Environmental Damage; or
- (b) Any event, circumstance, condition, operation or activity which it is reasonably foreseeable is likely to result in Environmental Damage

Which (in either case) in Network Rail's reasonable opinion could result in Network Rail incurring any material liability or being subject to the Direction of any Competent Authority;

"Environmental Damage"

means any material injury or damage to persons, living organisms or property (including offence to man's senses) or any pollution or impairment of the environment resulting from the discharge, emission, escape or migration of any substance, energy, noise or vibration;

"relevant liability"

means the obligation of any person to make any payment or to take or secure the taking of any action in relation to an Environmental Condition or the Direction of a Competent Authority of the kind referred to in Condition E2.1.1(b); and

"relevant steps"

in relation to a Train Operator, means the steps of the kind referred to in Condition E2.1.3(e)(i).

## **CONDITION E1 - ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **1.1 *Train Operator's licence compliance***

Each Train Operator shall provide Network Rail with a copy of its written environmental protection policy and operational objectives and management arrangements giving effect to that policy, as submitted to the Office of Rail and Road pursuant to its licence authorising it to be the operator of trains.

### **1.2 *Network Rail's licence compliance***

Network Rail shall provide each Access Beneficiary with a copy of its written environmental protection policy and operational objectives and management arrangements giving effect to that policy, as submitted to the Office of Rail and Road pursuant to its network licence.

### **1.3 *Information as to materials to be transported***

Each Train Operator shall from time to time, and within a reasonable time of being requested to do so by Network Rail, provide Network Rail with:

- (a) information as to any materials it proposes to transport on the Network which would by virtue of their nature or the quantity transported be likely to give rise to Environmental Damage if those materials were to be discharged or emitted or to escape or migrate;
- (b) in relation to such materials as are referred to in sub-paragraph (a) above, a copy of any licence, authorisation, consent or certificate of registration required for their carriage.

### **1.4 *General information - Train Operator***

Each Train Operator shall promptly notify Network Rail (and where such notification is given orally shall promptly confirm such notification in writing) of any circumstances of which the Train Operator is aware and which it is reasonably foreseeable are likely to give rise to Environmental Damage as a result of or affecting the activities of the Train Operator. Each Train Operator shall at all times exercise due diligence to inform itself of any circumstances which would require such notification.

### **1.5 *General information - Network Rail***

Network Rail shall promptly notify a Train Operator (and where such notification is given orally shall promptly confirm such notification in writing) of any circumstances of which Network Rail is aware and which it is reasonably foreseeable are likely to give rise to Environmental Damage which may affect the Train Operator. Network Rail shall at all times exercise due diligence to inform itself of any circumstances which would require such notification.

## **CONDITION E2 - REMEDIAL ACTION**

### **2.1 *Assessment as to appropriate persons to take relevant steps***

#### **2.1.1 *Network Rail's assessment***

Where:

- (a) Network Rail becomes aware that, as a direct or indirect result of the activities of a Train Operator, an Environmental Condition exists or has occurred and Network Rail reasonably considers that action is required to prevent, mitigate or remedy that Environmental Condition; or
- (b) Network Rail is given a Direction by a Competent Authority that some action is required to prevent, mitigate or remedy an Environmental Condition resulting directly or indirectly from the activities of a Train Operator

Network Rail shall make an assessment, on the best information available to it at the relevant time, as to which of Network Rail and the Train Operators with permission to use the relevant part of the Network is or are the persons who would be the most appropriate to take any relevant steps, and, if more than one is appropriate, in what proportions.

#### **2.1.2 *Relevant criteria***

In making an assessment under Condition E2.1.1, Network Rail shall have due regard:

- (a) to the likelihood that the person in question may be liable (other than pursuant to this Part E) to make any payment or to take or omit to take any action in relation to the Environmental Condition or Direction in question, whether under any Access Agreement to which it is a party or otherwise;
- (b) in relation to the steps to be taken and the objectives of those steps, to the efficiency and economy with which the steps may be taken, and the effectiveness of those steps, if that person takes those steps, irrespective of the matters referred to in paragraph (a) above; and
- (c) all other relevant circumstances of the case.

### 2.1.3 *Notice of Network Rail's assessment*

Within 60 days of making its assessment, Network Rail shall give notice to each affected Train Operator of:

- (a) the Environmental Condition or Direction of Competent Authority in question;
- (b) the assessment;
- (c) its reasons for reaching the assessment;
- (d) the availability for inspection by the Train Operator of such information as Network Rail shall have used in making the assessment; and
- (e) the steps which Network Rail reasonably considers:
  - (i) will be necessary to prevent, mitigate or remedy the Environmental Condition or the events or circumstances giving rise to the Direction of the Competent Authority in question, or to comply with the Direction in question; and
  - (ii) which should be taken by the Train Operator in question.

### 2.1.4 *Compliance with Train Operator's request for information*

Network Rail shall comply with any reasonable request of an affected Train Operator for additional information in relation to the relevant liability or Network Rail's assessment, within a reasonable time of the request.

### 2.1.5 *Disagreement with Network Rail's assessment*

If an affected Train Operator shall be dissatisfied with Network Rail's assessment or with any other statement or information provided by Network Rail pursuant to Condition E2.1.3, it shall be entitled to refer the matter for resolution in accordance with the ADRR. It shall lose that entitlement if it fails to make the reference within 120 days of the later of:

- (a) the date of its receipt of Network Rail's assessment; and
- (b) the date upon which it receives any further information to which it is entitled pursuant to this Condition E2.1.

## **2.2 Requirement to take relevant steps**

### **2.2.1 Obligation**

Subject to Conditions E2.1.5, E2.7 and E2.8, the Train Operator shall:

- (a) take the steps of which Network Rail gives it notice pursuant to Condition E2.1.3(e), provided Network Rail shall have given it a reasonable opportunity to do so; and
- (b) bear the costs of taking those steps.

### **2.2.2 Network Rail assistance and supervision**

In cases where the Train Operator reasonably requires access to any part of the Network in order to take any relevant steps, Network Rail shall provide the Train Operator with such assistance and co-operation as shall be reasonable in that respect.

## **2.3 Network Rail's right to take relevant steps**

If:

- (a) the Train Operator fails to take any relevant step within a reasonable time or to the reasonable satisfaction of Network Rail; or
- (b) in Network Rail's reasonable opinion, either:
  - (i) it is necessary to take any relevant step urgently; or
  - (ii) it is not reasonably practicable in the circumstances for the Train Operator to take any relevant step,

Network Rail shall be entitled to take the step in question and to be reimbursed by the Train Operator for a fair proportion of the reasonable costs of doing so. Network Rail shall give notice to the Train Operator in question of any step taken pursuant to this Condition E2.3.

## **2.4 Liability of Network Rail**

Where Network Rail takes any steps in accordance with Condition E2.3, it shall not be liable to the Train Operator for any direct physical damage which is caused as a result of the taking of such steps except to the extent that Network Rail, or any person acting on behalf of or on the instructions of Network Rail, has been negligent or has failed to perform any obligation.

## **2.5 Access to land**

Each Train Operator shall use all reasonable endeavours to procure that Network Rail shall be given such right of access to any land upon which plant, equipment, rolling stock or machinery of the Train Operator is located as may be reasonably necessary to enable Network Rail to take any relevant steps.

## **2.6 General right to restrict access to Network**

2.6.1 Subject to having complied with Conditions F4 and G5 and to having given to all affected Train Operators as much notice as shall be reasonably practicable, Network Rail shall have the right to restrict permission to use the Network to the extent and for such period as is reasonably necessary to prevent, mitigate or remedy an Environmental Condition or to comply with a relevant Direction of a Competent Authority in respect of an Environmental Condition.

2.6.2 Where permission to use the Network is restricted pursuant to Condition E2.6.1, Network Rail shall use all reasonable endeavours to keep the extent and duration of such a restriction to a minimum and shall keep all affected Train Operators reasonably and regularly informed of the steps being taken by Network Rail to remove the restriction.

## **2.7 Payments to be made on without prejudice basis**

Payments by a Train Operator under this Condition E2 shall be made without prejudice to the right of the Train Operator's right to recover the whole or any part of the amounts in question from Network Rail or any other person, whether under an Access Agreement or in any other way.

## **2.8 Action taken will not prejudice later claim**

No action taken by a Train Operator in compliance with its obligations under this Condition E2 shall prejudice the right of the Train Operator at a later date to claim that any other person has the relevant liability.