

Confidential Safety Information Reporting Scheme



Track Machine at Mortuary Station

A report was made that there was a track machine parked overnight on a steep section of track adjacent to Mortuary Station. The track runs downhill to Darling Harbour and has a relatively steep gradient of 1 in 33. If the track machine was unattended and ran away, property and persons could be placed at significant risk. The matter was reported to rail managers but according to the reporter no action had been taken.

CSIRS Requirement

OTSI investigated and confirmed that there was a track machine in the location and that it was against network procedure to be parked in that location. RailCorp was contacted and requested to take action in regard to removing or securing the rail track machine.

Investigation outcome

RailCorp undertook an investigation of the area which found that the concerns raised by the employee were valid. RailCorp resolved the issue by placing a stop block and a derailer on the line, chocks were also applied to the track machine. It was found that the machine was supposed to be stabled in the Mortuary Station yard but due to renovation work being carried out on Mortuary Station the track machine was placed where it was.

OTSI Action

A copy of this summary report has been passed to the Transport Safety Regulation division of the Independent Transport Safety and Reliability Regulator. OTSI has also advised the reporter of the response and actions provided by the responsible operator.

This report and the associated response will be retained by the Office of Transport Safety Investigation for future safety trend analysis.