DRAFT POINT PROTECTION RULE
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WAC 480-62-218 Point Protection

(1) The following definitions apply to this section:
       "Shove" means to back up or push cars with a locomotive rather than pulling them.
       "Drop" and "kick" mean to release cars from a train or locomotive and allow them to coast or roll free.

(2) Except when it is reasonably certain that neither people nor equipment could be in the way, when cars or engines are shoved, a crew member must take an easily seen position on the leading car or engine, or be ahead of the movement, to provide protection. Cars or engines must not be shoved to block other tracks until it is safe to do so.

(3) When railroad cars are shoved, kicked or dropped over road crossings at grade, a crew member must be on the ground at the crossing to warn traffic until the crossing is occupied. Movements over the crossing may only be made on the crew member's signal.

(4) The warning required in subsection (2) is not required when crossing gates are in the fully lowered position, or it is clearly seen that no traffic is approaching or stopped at the crossing.

(5) Movements performed under remote-control operations are to be considered "shoving" movements, regardless of the direction or position of the remote-control locomotive, except when the primary remote-control operator is riding the leading locomotive.

(6) When a remote-control zone has been activated in accordance with the railroad's own rules, the railroad may relieve the remote-control operator of the requirements in subsections (1) through (4). However, the railroad must always provide point protection, in accordance with subsections (1) through (3) of this section, at road crossings at grade or where a car or engine that is being moved could block mainline tracks.

(7) The requirements of this section apply to a railroad unless and until it has filed with the Federal Railroad Administration, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Sec. 217, operating rules that materially modify the requirements of Sections 6.5 and 6.32.1 of the General Code of Operating Rules (Fourth Ed., Effective April 2, 2000).