

**CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATIVE BOARD
BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS**



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SAFETY ADVISORY

To: All BLE members

From: Tim Smith, Chairman CSLB/BLE

RE: How do we define “unattended equipment”?

A recent communiqué regarding the definition of “unattended equipment” took place between the Southern California Superintendent of the CPUC and members of General Chairman Bill Hannah’s UP Western Lines General Committee of Adjustment.

This is Mr. Elmore’s response to the query:

“One point of clarification recently explained by the UP regarding the question of "what is unattended equipment?"

Answer- "Equipment that is greater than the outstretched arms distance from an employee"

As far as securement issues, I understand that UP has issued specific instructions regarding use and minimum number of handbrakes required.

Unless superseded by other rules, securement requirements apply at all locations.”

The way I understand it, if you are more than an arm’s length away, tie it down. Add this definition to your railroad’s securement rules and apply them accordingly.

Please post this advisory and **discuss** this finding and the appropriate securement rules of your railroad with **all crewmembers prior to commencing work**. Heaven forbid we have any more accidents such as the ones which have recently occurred.

Remember, if in doubt...Tie It Down!

Fraternally,

Timothy L. Smith, Chairman
California State Legislative Board
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