

11-1-82

FILE LA-3

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS
INDIANA HARBOR BELT RAILROAD COMPANY

Discipline Rule and Procedures
(Investigation Agreement)

Effective

November 1, 1982

full
p. 3

Memorandum of Agreement between the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad and its employees represented by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers with respect to Discipline of the General Agreements.

IT IS AGREED THAT EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 31, 1982, THE ARTICLES OF DISCIPLINE OF THE PAST AND CURRENT INVESTIGATION AGREEMENTS ARE ABROGATED. EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 1982, THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION AGREEMENT IS IN EFFECT.

DISCIPLINE RULE AND PROCEDURES

ARTICLE I

SECTION A. General Requirements

1. An employee shall not be discharged, suspended or otherwise disciplined without just cause and without a fair and impartial hearing, except that an employee may waive a hearing in accordance with Section B (2) of this Article I.
2. An employee shall not be held from service pending hearing except in serious cases, such as theft, altercation, Rule "G" violation, insubordination, major accidents, serious misconduct and major offenses whereby the employee's retention in service could be hazardous.

SECTION B. Formal Hearing

1. Notice of Hearing
 - (a) An employee directed to attend a formal hearing to determine the employee's responsibility, if any, in connection with an occurrence or incident shall be notified in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address within a reasonable period of time but not to exceed ten (10) days from the date of occurrence, or where the occurrence is of a nature not immediately known to the

employee's supervisor(s), from the time they first have knowledge thereof. The notice shall contain a clear and specific statement of the date, time, place, and nature of the occurrence or incident that is to be the subject of the hearing. The notice shall be sent in duplicate in order that the employee may transmit a copy to the employee's representative, if the employee so desires.

NOTE: This rule does not preclude delivery of the notice at reasonable times by a carrier representative. Such delivery at the employee's home shall be made only when other means of delivery are not practicable.

(Employee's notice of hearing may be confirmed by telephone.)

- (b) The notice shall state the date, time, and place the hearing is to be held which shall be not less than five (5) days after the date of notification or more than ten (10) days after the date of notification unless otherwise agreed to.
- (c) The Carrier will have the responsibility of producing sufficient witnesses to develop the facts concerning the incident or occurrence being investigated and the notice of hearing shall include the name of each person receiving the notice and the names of all witnesses known at the time of the notice that the carrier intends to have in attendance at the hearing. The employee or the employee's representative may bring to the attention of the responsible carrier official the

name or names of other witnesses who may provide material facts.

(d) The notice shall inform each employee so notified of the right to representation and to bring in witnesses.

(e) If an employee who is to receive a notice of hearing will not be permitted to exercise the option under Section B(2) of this Article I, the notice of hearing shall so specify.

2. Waiver of Hearing

(a) An employee who has been notified to appear for a hearing shall have the option, prior to the hearing, to discuss with the appropriate carrier official, either personally, through or with the employee's representative, the act or occurrence and the employee's responsibility, if any.

If disposition of the charges is made on the basis of the employee's acknowledgement of responsibility, the disposition shall be reduced to writing and signed by the employee and the official involved and shall incorporate a waiver of hearing and shall specify the maximum discipline which may be imposed for employee's acceptance of responsibility.

Disposition of cases under this paragraph (a) shall not establish precedents in the handling of any other cases.

(b) No minutes or other record will be made of the discussions and, if the parties are unable to reach an agreed upon disposition on this basis, no reference shall be made to these discussions by either of the parties in any subsequent handling of the charges under the discipline procedure.

3. Postponements of Hearing

Consistent with the provisions of Section A. 1 for a fair and impartial hearing, postponements of the formal hearing may be requested by either party on reasonable grounds and consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. When employees are held from service the Carrier will not be permitted a postponement unless agreed upon by the organizations.

4. Conduct of Hearing

(a) The hearing shall be conducted by an officer of the employing carrier who may be assisted by other officers. If practicable to do so, the hearing shall be held at the home terminal of the employee involved or in cases where more than one employee is involved at the home terminal of the majority of the employees.

NOTE: When another carrier is involved, this will not preclude an officer of that carrier from conducting the hearing or assisting in the hearing recognizing, in any case, that there shall be only one presiding (hearing) officer at a time.

(b) The employees shall have the right to be represented at the hearing by an employee or a duly authorized organization representative of the employee's own choosing. The employee and/or the employee's representative shall have the right to introduce witnesses in the employee's behalf, to hear all testimony introduced, and to question all witnesses.

(c) An employee's personal service record will not be included in or referred to in the hearing or in the transcript of the

proceedings hearing. The employee's personal record may be taken into consideration in assessing the amount of discipline imposed, if any.

- (d) If the formal hearing is not held within the time limits specified in Section B. 1(b) the employee will not be disciplined, will be paid for all time lost, and no disciplinary entry will be made in the employee's personal service record.
- (e) The employee and witnesses will be permitted time off if requested in order to have sufficient rest prior to and following the hearing.

SECTION C. Transcript of Hearing

It is recognized that the Carrier is responsible for ensuring that an accurate transcript of the hearing proceedings is made. However, this will not preclude the employee or employee's representative from making a record of the proceedings for their own use.

If, during the hearing, a partial transcript is made prior to conclusion of the hearing, such partial transcript will be made available to the employee and employee's representative upon request. If electronic recording devices are used and recordings are available for review by carrier officials, they also shall be made available upon request for review by the employee and employee's representative at the appropriate carrier facility.

In any cases where discipline is assessed, or in cases where discipline is not assessed but nevertheless there is a transcript, a copy of the transcript will be furnished to the employee and to the employee's representative promptly upon request and a receipt will be signed therefor.

SECTION D. Hearing Decision

1. If the formal hearing results in assessment of discipline, such decision shall be rendered within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date the hearing is concluded, and the employee will be notified in writing of the reason therefore by certified or registered U.S. mail with additional copy provided for the employee's representative.

NOTE: This rule does not preclude delivery of the decision at reasonable times by a carrier representative. Such delivery at the employee's home shall be made only when other means of delivery are not practicable.

2. If the hearing does not result in discipline being assessed, any charges related thereto entered in the employee's personal service record shall be voided.

SECTION E. Compensation for Attending Hearings

1. Witnesses, as referred to in Section B. 1.(c), who are directed by the carrier to attend a hearing, shall be compensated for all time lost and, in addition, will be reimbursed for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred for each day of the hearing. Where no time is lost, they will be paid for actual time attending the hearing, with a minimum of four (4) hours to be paid for at the rate of pay applicable to the last service performed.

2. When an employee involved in a formal hearing is not assessed discipline, the employee shall be compensated for all time lost. In addition, the employee will be reimbursed for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred for each day of the hearing. Where no time is lost the employee shall be paid for actual time

attending the hearing with a minimum of four (4) hours for each day of the hearing, to be paid for at the rate of pay applicable to the last service performed.

SECTION F. Time Limit on Appeals

1. When discipline has been assessed as a result of a formal hearing and the decision as rendered by the carrier is not acceptable to the employee, any appeal must be presented in writing by or on behalf of the employee involved, to the officer of the Company authorized to receive same; the Superintendent, within sixty (60) days from the date of notification of the assessment of discipline. Failing to comply with this provision the decision shall be considered final, but this shall not be considered as a precedent or waiver of the contentions of the employees as to other discipline cases. The carrier shall, within sixty (60) days from the date the appeal is filed render a decision in writing on the appeal and, if the appeal is denied, the reasons for such denial shall be given. If no decision is rendered within sixty (60) days, the appeal shall be considered valid and settled accordingly, but this shall not be considered as a precedent or waive of the contentions of the carrier as to other discipline cases.

2. The procedure outlined in paragraph 1 shall govern in appeals taken to each succeeding officer (*). Decision by the highest officer designated to handle discipline matter shall be final and binding unless within sixty (60) days after written notice of the decision, said officer is notified in writing that the decision is not accepted.

Thereafter, if conference is requested by either party it will

be held within sixty (60) days of date of decision, otherwise conference will be considered as having been waived by mutual consent. All appeals involved in a decision of the highest officer shall be barred unless within one hundred eight (180) days from the date of said officer's decision proceedings are instituted before a tribunal having jurisdiction pursuant to law or agreement.

NOTE: (*) There shall not be more than two (2) succeeding officer involved in the appeals process; the Superintendent and Director- Labor Relations & Personnel.

3. With respect to appeals involving an employee dismissed, suspended or held out of service, the original notice of request for reinstatement with pay for time lost shall be sufficient.

4. If at any point in this appeals procedure or in proceeding before a tribunal having jurisdiction it is determined that the employee should not have been disciplined, any charges related thereto entered in the employee's personal service record shall be voided and, if required to lose time or if held out of service (suspended or dismissed), the employee shall be reinstated with pay for all time lost and with seniority and other rights unimpaired.

5. If discipline assessed is by suspension, time lost by an employee when held out of service shall be deducted from the assessed period of suspension.

SECTION G. Effect of Time Limits

The time limits set forth in this Article will govern the discipline procedure to the exclusion of any other rule, practice or agreement to the contrary and such time limits may be extended by mutual

agreement in writing. Time limits as outlined herein will not be applicable when an employee requests reinstatement on a leniency basis.

For the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers

For the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Co.

G.R. DeBolt
G.R. DeBolt; General Chairman

J.D. Ditto
J.D. Ditto; Director-Labor Relations
& Personnel

INDIANA HARBOR BELT RAILROAD COMPANY
2721 - 161ST STREET, P.O. BOX 389, HAMMOND, INDIANA 46325

J. D. DITTO
DIRECTOR OF LABOR RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL

J. K. BEATTY
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LABOR RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL

October 20, 1982

File: LA-3

Mr. G. R. DeBolt
General Chairman - BLE
16651 - 88th Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462

Dear Mr. DeBolt:

Enclosed are copies of proposed agreement regarding Discipline Rule and Procedures.

Would appreciate any suggestions, corrections and/or deletions.

If the article numbering or section numbering is of any consequence, please feel free to suggest your position along this subject matter.

If the agreement is acceptable pending any minor corrections, would suggest we conference as quickly as your time schedule permits.

Very truly yours,

John D. Ditto

JDD:nm

Enc.



INDIANA HARBOR BELT RAILROAD COMPANY

August 13, 1982

File: BLE-G-3-Rules
UTU(T)-G-11 Rules
UTU(E)-G-10 Rules

Mr. A.B. Cravens:

Please refer to your letter of August 12, 1982, file I-O-62. Mr. Snell and Mr. Ditto met with Messrs. C. DeBolt, G. DeBolt, and H. Urick on July 15th, 1982, to discuss changing the time limits involved with the handling of investigations and the assessment of discipline. At this meeting, there was no disagreement on the proposed time limits. There was disagreement concerning the amount of pay to be allowed employees called in as witnesses. Carrier proposed actual time, Mr. G. DeBolt insisted on a minimum of four (4) hours. Discussions broke down on this point. Subsequent to this meeting, Mr. Snell has talked to Mr. George DeBolt on the telephone and Mr. DeBolt indicated that he would again come in and discuss this matter during the month of September.

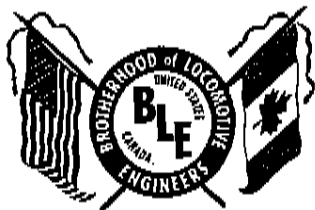
As you know, Mr. Urick is on vacation for the balance of August and will be unavailable for any conference until early in September. As soon as Mr. Urick returns from his vacation we will endeavor to reconvene the *meeting* for further discussions. In the meantime, we would appreciate your input concerning our proposal for payment of actual time of witnesses.


J.D. DITTO

J.D. DITTO


JKB/jc

cc: M.G. Peterson



General Committee of Adjustment

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers

Indiana Harbor Belt

16651 88th Avenue, Orland Park, Illinois 60462



G.R. DeBOLT, Chairman
Telephone: (312) 532-6626

March 2, 1982

Mr. W. F. Snell
Dir. of Lab. Rel. & Per.
IHB Railroad
2721 161st Street
Hammond, In. 46323



Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a proposal for a Discipline Rule and Procedures Agreement as agreed upon by the Carriers and Organization on a national level.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers representing engineers on the Indiana Harbor Belt is agreeable to signing the agreement proposal as written, and implementing such an agreement as soon as possible.

The Carrier has expressed a desire for an extended number of days required in notification, holding an investigation and time to consider the decision after the investigation. I believe this proposal would fulfill the desire of the Carrier in this area.

Should you desire to present the proposal to the other transportation organizations, I believe it would be acceptable to all, so that the transportation department would have a uniform discipline agreement.

If you wish to discuss the proposal, I will be available at any time and date convenient for you.

Sincerely,

General Chairman 682



INDIANA HARBOR BELT RAILROAD COMPANY

December 2, 1982

File: LA-3-Discipline Rules

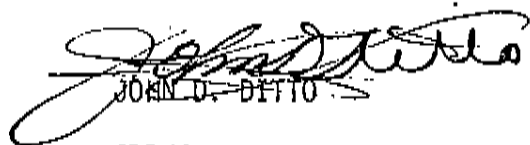
Messrs. M.G. Peterson
N.L. Larzelere
H.T. Hale
A.L. Weeks
T.J. Dowling

A.B. Cravens
H.C. George
L.A. Cunday
J.K. Beatty

Gentlemen:

Attached is a copy of Memorandum of Agreement covering the articles of discipline for the B.L.E. and the U.T.U. - E, self-explanatory.

As information, Mr. Urick has been unable to sign a similar agreement for the U.T.U. - T; however, it is my understanding he will have a committee meeting this month to poll his committee and get their decision.


JOHN D. DITTO

JDD/je