

BNSF



Gene L. Shire
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Mr. W.E. Young
General Chairman UTU
2110 East First Street
Suite 112
Santa Ana, CA. 92705-4095

December 29, 2003

Dear Mr. Young,

This is in response to your letter of October 1, 2003 concerning work events under the Coast Lines crew consist agreement.

Specifically, the letter outlined a position taken by a Carrier Officer that work events attached to the train, not to the crew. In other words, the idea was that a conductor-only crew called in Hours of Service Relief, multiple trips, would be able to perform more than three events during a tour of duty, so long as there were no more than three associated with any single train (including those events performed by the crew being relieved under the Hours of Service Law). The position of UTU is that the Hours of Service relief conductor may perform a maximum of three events during the entire tour of duty, recognizing that receiving or delivering any train is not an "event." I agree with UTU's position.

A reading of the conductor-only conditions present on the Coast Lines makes it clear that the framers of the agreement intended to limit the amount of work a conductor-only crew would perform. While there are certainly trains that qualify for conductor-only crews under this Agreement, the work restrictions apply to the crew, not the train.

I trust that the foregoing is acceptable to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene L. Shire".

Cc: Roger Boldra
Melissa Beasley