

Rule Change to ABTH 106.9 Energy Management



Effective January 1, 2022, rule ABTH 106.9. no longer restricts auto control during extreme cold weather conditions.

When operating in extreme cold weather (below 0°F) conditions (ABTH 103.3.1), auto control should be utilized to its fullest extent possible. The engineer should only follow the air brake prompts if they feel it is safe to do so given their circumstances.

Despite this change, engineers must still perform Running Air Brake Tests as required for all trains during inclement weather. (ABTH 100.13 - Running Air Brake Test)

As a reminder: Energy management systems are programs designed to assist engineers with fuel-efficient train operation and are not a substitute for the engineer's experience and good judgment. The safe operation of the train and compliance with rules and special instructions continues to remain the engineer's first responsibility.

Knowing the exposures present, ways to control the risk to those exposures, and cues to pause the work throughout the day can help ensure everyone returns home safely at the end of the workday.