

**Personal Leave Days Banked/Carried Over**

General Chairman's Cover Letter



**Brotherhood of  
Locomotive Engineers**

GENERAL COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT  
BNSF/MRL

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October 24, 2001  
File: Personal Leave Days  
Banked/Carried Over

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

Enclosed you will find a recent letter of understanding, entered into by former General Chairman Geiger, addressing disputes over the banking of unused personal leave days while working in the craft of Locomotive Engineer. For those of you that are unfamiliar with this dispute, several Engineers, working in other than through freight service, were denied the right to bank or carry over their unused Personal Leave Days from the year 2000. The Carrier's previous position was that these engineers were not working in a class of service covered under the Personal Leave Day agreement as they were on assignments that qualified for Holiday Pay. The enclosed settlement resolves this dispute for all engineers, regardless of the class of service they are working in at the end of the year, and also restores all unused Personal Leave days from 2000 and 2001.

It should be noted that this settlement does not resolve this same issue for those Engineers who are demoted and working in a ground craft on the last day of the year. The differences between our agreements for Personal Leave days and those covering UTU represented crafts are many, and we are convinced that the only way that this issue can be resolved for those engineers working in demoted crafts is for both BLE and UTU to jointly seek resolution. I would also add that this is just one of the many real concerns of the membership that would be better served if these same two proud unions were working together, as one, rather than separately struggling to resolve issues with the Carrier.

Please contact the Office if you have any questions.

Fraternally,  


Dennis R. Pierce  
General Chairman

Enclosures

Letter of Understanding

**BNSF**



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Mr. A. G. Morrison, General Chairman  
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers  
5410 Bell Street, Suite 409B  
Amarillo, TX 79 109-6222

Dear Sirs:

This will confirm our recent discussions concerning carrying over personal leave days. At the conclusion of our discussions, we agreed to the following:

If the last service performed by an employee during the year is as a locomotive engineer, that locomotive engineer will have his unused personal leave days automatically carried over to the next year, with the appropriate offsets for personal leave days and/or holidays observed or for which paid while working in any craft.

This agreement will become effective when the necessary programming is completed during the last quarter of 2001 to be implemented on January 1, 2002. At that time, unused carry over days from 2000 to 2001 and from 2001 to 2002 will be calculated and credited on January 1, 2002.

This agreement will remain in effect until cancelled by either party serving a sixty (60) day notice upon the other party. If the following correctly describes our understanding, please sign in the space provided below and return the original to me.

Very truly yours,

  
M. W. Geiger  
A. G. Morrison  
R. C. Gibbons