January 2020

Winter Plan Update



CN has a four-tier system for addressing the impact of severe winter temperatures and ensuring safe operations under these conditions. The following chart shows CN's train length safety-driven policy for cold-weather operations. Reductions in train length are required once temperatures are -25°C or below. This system was updated in January 2020 to reflect revised train length restrictions to optimize network fluidity during the winter months.

The current tiered restrictions are as follows:

Maximum Train Length Based on Ambient Temperature								
	Above -25°C	Tier 1 -25°C to -30°C		Tier 2 -30°C to -35°C		Tier 3 Colder than -35°C		Tier 4 Colder than -40°C
Head End Power								
Unit train	10,000	7,000	-30%	5,000	-50%	4,000	-60%	
Carload train	10,000	7,000	-30%	5,000	-50%	4,000	-60%	*
Intermodal train	12,000	8,000	-33%	6,000	-50%	4,500	-63%	
With Distributed Power								
Unit train	11,300	10,000	-12%	7,500	-34%	6,000	-47%	
Carload train	11,300	10,000	-12%	7,500	-34%	6,000	-47%	*
Intermodal train	14,000	12,000	-14%	8,500	-39%	6,700	-52%	

^{*}No new train starts at night for safety reasons.