



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

US Department  
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad  
Administration

Mr. Stephen Galati  
Texas & Northern Railway  
General Superintendent  
6866 US HWY 2593  
Lone Star, TX 75668

January 21, 2021

Dear Mr. Galati:

This letter responds to the Texas & Northern Railway submission dated January 20, 2021, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the Engineer Certification Program received by FRA on November 23, 2020. FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs as described in Appendix B to 49 CFR part 240.

FRA reviewed the railroad's program modification and determined that the railroad's program modification conforms with the requirements of 49 CFR part 240 for the reasons discussed below.

On November 23, 2020, the railroad provided an email that stated that your railroad does not have union representation for your train service employees.

The program modifications are consistent with the model of the previously approved railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications are intended to provide more detail to the engineer certification process and updated contact information. Additional modifications to the submission also addressed deficiencies with the standard requirements of 49 CFR part 240, Appendix B. The improvements enhance qualifications for DLSE's. Standards have been set with regards to the number of qualifying rides when returning to engine service. The minimum duration of annual monitoring rides is clearly defined. Engineers have a detailed training program for previously certified engineers as prescribe in Appendix section 3. Detailed training standards have been established in Section 4 of your engineer certification program.

Please continue in your efforts to improve railroad safety on your system.

Please contact me with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 393-0978 or [FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov](mailto:FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

Christian Holt  
Operating Practices Staff Director