



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

US Department  
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad  
Administration

Mr. Seth Warren  
Terminal Switching Services  
Regional Switching Manger  
1045 South 5500 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84104

January 31, 2021

Dear Mr. Warren

This letter responds to the Terminal Switching Services submission dated December 20, 2020, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the Engineer Certification Program received by FRA on November 17, 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.

Your submission states that on December 13, 2020, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to the presidents of SMART-TD labor organization representing the railroad's employees. FRA received no comments on the program or program modification by the labor organizations.

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 regarding the number of minutes of a skill testing ride when performing initial certification. 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