

U.S. Department Of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

Ron Martin
Patriot Rail Company
Director – Transportation Training & System DSLE
10752 Deerwood Park Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32256

March 16, 2021

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter responds to Patriot Rail submission dated January 26, 2021, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the Patriot Rail Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on January 26, 2021. Patriot Rail has complied with FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs described in appendix B to 49 CFR part 242. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modification and determined that the railroad's program modification conforms with the requirements of 49 CFR part 242 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission states that on January 27, 2021, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to Mr. Jeremy Ferguson, President of SMART-TD labor organization representing a small percentage of railroad 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 Class III railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications are intended to provide more detail to the conductor certification process and update contact information. Additional modifications to the submission also addressed deficiencies with the standard requirements of 49 CFR part 242, appendix B.

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

Please contact me with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 366-0978 or FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov or Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov

Sincerely,

Kevin Lewis FRA Program Manager Certification

pp Christian Holt Operating Practices Staff Director