1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590



US Department Of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

Zach Norwood Gravity Rail Vice President of Operations 11821 East Freeway Houston, TX 77029

June 29, 2022

Dear Mr. Norwood:

This letter responds to the Gravity Rail submission dated June 29, 2022, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its Engineer Certification Program received by FRA on March 26, 2021. Gravity Rail has complied with 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 March 21, 2021, the railroad provided an email that stated your railroad does not have union representation for your train service employees.

The program is consistent with the model of 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 re-qualifying over a specific territory. Detailed training standards have been established in Section five of your engineer training program.

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 <u>FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov</u> or <u>Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov</u>

Sincerely,

Kevin Lewis FRA Program Manager – Certification

pp Christian Holt Operating Practices Staff Director