



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

U.S. Department
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad
Administration

Louis Hardin
Southern Switching Company
General Manager
434 S. 2nd Street
Abilene, TX 79602

February 28, 2023

Dear Mr. Hardin:

This letter responds to the Southern Switching Company (SSC) on February 22, 2023, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the SSC Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on February 22, 2023. SSC has complied with FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs is 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 package states that no labor organizations are representing the railroad's employees.

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