1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590



US Department Of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

Wesley Lofton Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway Safety Program and Training Specialist 1445 Rockford Rd. SW Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

March 31, 2023

Dear Mr. Lofton:

This letter responds to the Cedar Rapids & Iowa City Railway (CIC) Railroad submission dated February 14, 2023, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the Engineer Certification Program received by FRA on February 14, 2023. (CIC) 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 modifications and determined that the railroad's program modifications conform with the requirements of 49 CFR part 240 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission states that on February 14, 2023, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to Mr. Jeremy Ferguson, President 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 DLSEs. Standards have been set with regard to re-qualifying over a specific territory. Section five of your engineer training program has established detailed training standards.

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

Please contact me with any questions regarding this submission at (918) 557-0651 or <u>FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov</u> or <u>Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov</u>.

Sincerely,