



US Department
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Jene Lager
Trona Railway Company
Program Administrator
13068 Main St.
Trona, CA. 93562

April 17, 2025

Dear Mr. Lager:

This letter responds to the Trona Railway Company's (TRC) submission dated March 3, 2025, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), seeking approval of its material modifications to the TRC Engineer Certification Program, which FRA received on the same date. TRC has complied with the FRA's procedures for submitting and approving programs, as described in Appendix B to 49 CFR part 240. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modifications and determined that they conform to the requirements of 49 CFR part 240 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission states that on March 3, 2025, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to Mr. Edward Hall, President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE), a labor organization representing the railroad's employees. FRA received no comments on the program or program modification from the labor organizations.

The program modifications are consistent with the model of the previously approved railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications will provide more details about 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 concerning 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 get in touch with us with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 366-0978 or FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov or Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov or Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson
FRA Rail Safety Specialist – Certification

pp Christian Holt
Operating Practices Staff Director