



U.S. 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 Conductor Certification Program, which FRA received on the same date. TRC has complied with the FRA's procedures for submitting and approving programs described in Appendix B to 49 CFR part 242. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modification and determined that it conforms with the requirements of 49 CFR part 242 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 BLE, the 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 Class III railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications are intended to provide more details about the conductor certification process and update contact information. Additional modifications to the submission also addressed deficiencies in the standard requirements of 49 CFR part 242, appendix B. Standards have been established regarding re-qualification over a specific territory. Detailed training standards have been established in Section Four of your conductor training program.

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

Please contact us with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 366-0978 or FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov, or reach out to Kevin Lewis at Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov or Kurt Erickson at Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson
FRA Rail Safety Specialist – Certification

pp Christian Holt
Operating Practices Staff Director