



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

US Department
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad
Administration

Robert McCarthy
Mountain States Contract Switching
Program Administrator
4001 S 34th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85040

June 24, 2025

Mr. McCarthy:

This letter responds to the Mountain States Contract Switching (MSCS) submission, June 24, 2025, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the MSCS Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on June 20, 2025. (MSCS) has complied with FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs as described in Appendix B to 49 CFR part 242. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modifications and determined that they conform to the requirements of 49 CFR part 242 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission package states that no labor organizations represent the railroad's employees.

FRA understands that the railroad is newly established and has a limited operational scope at this time. The submitted program reflects a foundational approach suitable for a shortline railroad, incorporating the necessary elements for compliance with Part 242, including procedures for training, testing, monitoring, and certification of conductors. Based on the information provided, FRA approves the MSCS Conductor Certification Program as written.

If the railroad's operations expand, materially change, or material modifications occur to the certification program, MSCS must update its certification program accordingly and submit any necessary modifications to FRA for review and approval.

Please contact 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,

Kevin Lewis
FRA Program Manager
Engineer and Conductor Certification & Training