



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Railroad
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

NOV 19 2013

Mr. Edward R. Hamberger
President and Chief Executive Officer
Association of American Railroads
425 Third Street SW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Hamberger:

Thank you for your prompt response to my September 30, 2013, letter requesting that the Association of American Railroads (AAR) summarize the steps that its members have made to implement each of the recommendations contained in the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's jointly issued Safety Advisory 2013-006.

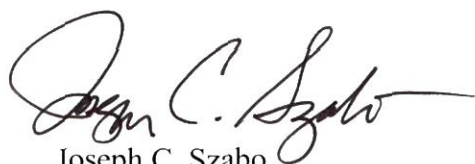
We carefully reviewed your response and appreciate your thoroughness. We also appreciate AAR's active participation in the three Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Working Groups that were established in response to the tragic Lac Mégantic accident to address transportation of hazardous materials, train securement, and appropriate crew size.

Regarding appropriate crew size, we were pleased to see AAR's report that all Class I railroads currently use two-person crews for over-the-road mainline operation. Shortly after the Lac Mégantic accident, FRA was advised that BNSF Railway (BNSF) now requires any connecting railroad shipping hazardous materials with BNSF to operate with two-man crews. This is a proactive step by BNSF as FRA believes that safety is enhanced by the use of multiple person crews. FRA would like to hear the specific details of BNSF's new requirement and find out which other railroads have also adopted this approach with their connecting railroad partners.

Your response to this request will also be posted on the FRA Web site to ensure complete transparency with the American public. We look forward to receiving your reply by December 6, 2013.

Thank you again for your cooperation and assistance on this important safety initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph C. Szabo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joseph C. Szabo
Administrator