



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

U.S. Department  
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad  
Administration

Matt Prince  
Colorado Pacific Rio Grande Railroad  
General Manager  
601 State Ave  
Alamosa, CO 81101

April 12, 2023

Dear Mr. Prince:

This letter responds to the Colorado Pacific Rio Grande Railroad submission on February 8, 2023, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the ABCD Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on February 8, 2023. Colorado Pacific Rio Grande Railroad has complied with FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs is described in appendix B to 49 CFR part 242. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modification and determined that the railroad's program modification conforms with the requirements of 49 CFR part 242 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission states that on February 8, 2023, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to Mr. Dennis Pierce, President of BLE, and 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 Class III railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications are intended to provide more detail to the conductor certification process and update contact information. Additional modifications to the submission also addressed deficiencies with the standard requirements of 49 CFR part 242, appendix B.

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

Please contact me with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 366-0978 or [FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov](mailto:FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov) or [Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov](mailto:Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov)

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson  
FRA Rail Safety Specialist-Certification

pp Christian Holt  
Operating Practices Staff Director