



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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US Department
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad
Administration

Jason Charbonneau
The Belt Railway Company of Chicago
Senior Director of Safety & Compliance
6900 South Central Avenue
Bedford Park, IL 60638

September 14, 2023

Dear Mr. Charbonneau

This letter responds to the The Belt Railway Company of Chicago (BRC) submission dated July 31, 2023, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the ABCD Engineer Certification Program received by FRA on July 31, 2023. BRC has complied with FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs as described in Appendix B to 49 CFR part 240. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modifications and determined that the railroad's program modifications conform with the requirements of 49 CFR part 240 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission states that on July 31, 2023, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to Mr. Mike Holic, Local Chairman of the BLET, and Mr. Christopher C. Votteler, Vice General Chairman 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 railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications are intended to provide more detail to 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. Detailed training standards have been established in Section Five of your engineer 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 Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov or Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson
FRA Rail Safety Specialist - Certification

pp Christian Holt
Operating Practices Staff Director