



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

U.S. 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 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 Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on July 31, 2023. BRC has complied with FRA's procedures for submission and approval of programs 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 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 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. Standards have been set with regards to re-qualifying 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 Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov or Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson
FRA Rail Safety Specialist - Certification

pp Christian Holt
Operating Practices Staff Director