



1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

U.S. Department  
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad  
Administration

Stephen D. Reaves  
The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak)  
System General Road Foreman  
1 High Speed Way  
Wilmington, DE 19801

October 2, 2023

Dear Mr. Reaves

This letter responds to the The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) (AMTK) submission dated August 17, 2023, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the AMTK Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on August 17, 2023. AMTK 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 August 17, 2023, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to 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. 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](mailto:FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov) or [Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov](mailto:Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov) or [Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov](mailto:Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov)

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson  
FRARail Safety Specialist - Certification

pp Christian Holt  
Operating Practices Staff Director