1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590



U.S. Department Of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

W. Fred Cruz NJ Transit Rail Operations System T&E Compliance Officer 1148 Newark Turnpike Kearny, NJ 07032-4311

August 7, 2024,

Dear Mr. Cruz:

This letter responds to the NJ Transit Rail Operations (NJT) on June 13, 2024, submission to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of its material modifications to the NJT Conductor Certification Program received by FRA on June 13, 2024. (NJT) 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 June 14, 2024, the railroad provided a copy of its program modification to Mr. Edward Hall, 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 I passenger 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. Detailed training standards have been established in Section Four of your conductor training program.

Please contact us with questions regarding this submission at (202) 366-0978 or <u>FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov</u> or <u>Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov</u> or <u>Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Kevin Lewis FRA Program Manager Certification

pp Christian Holt Operating Practices Staff Director