



US Department
Of Transportation

Federal Railroad
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Adam McDowell
ATOM Rail
Designated Supervisor of Locomotive Engineers
3662 John G Richards Rd.
Liberty Hill, SC 29074

March 31, 2025

Dear Mr. McDowell:

This letter responds to the ATOM Rail submission dated February 23, 2025, to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), seeking approval of its material modifications to the ATOM Rail Engineer Certification Program, which FRA received on February 23, 2025. ATOM Rail has complied with the FRA's procedures for submitting and approving programs, as described in Appendix B to 49 CFR part 240. FRA reviewed the railroad's program modifications and determined that they conform to the requirements of 49 CFR part 240 for the reasons discussed below.

Your submission package states that no labor organizations represent the railroad's employees.

The program modifications are consistent with the model of the previously approved railroad programs. FRA understands that the modifications will provide more details about 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. Section Five of your engineer training program has established detailed training standards.

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

Please get in touch with us with any questions regarding this submission at (202) 366-0978 or FRAOPCERTPROG@dot.gov. Alternatively, you can reach out to Kevin Lewis at Kevin.Lewis@dot.gov or Kurt Erickson at Kurt.Erickson@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Kurt Erickson
FRA Rail Safety Specialist – Certification

pp Christian Holt
Operating Practices Staff Director