

# Connex Railroad

March 12, 2009

**Via Electronic Correspondence and U.S. Mail**

Paul L. Stancil  
Hazardous Materials Accident Investigator  
National Transportation Safety Board  
Office of Railroad, Pipeline &  
Hazardous Materials Investigations  
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, SW  
Washington, DC 20594

Re: NTSB Request for Documents

Dear Mr. Stancil:

During the National Transportation Safety Board's public hearing on March 3 and 4 2009, the Safety Board staff requested nine items from Connex Railroad LLC. This letter and the enclosed documents provide the information requested by the Safety Board.

**3-Z: Engineer Efficiency Test Report Including the Number of Occasions During the Past 2 ½ Years that Efficiency Tests were Administered to Metrolink 111 Engineer**

- Enclosed is a report identifying each documented efficiency test that was administered to the involved Engineer from 6/01/05 – 9/13/08. Please note that many other observations occurred but were not documented unless a failure was observed.

**3-AA: Two Incidents that Metrolink 111 Engineer was Identified as Not Calling Signals**

- Enclosed is a report documenting the two efficiency tests in which the involved Engineer was identified for not calling signals.

**3-BB: Efficiency Tests Results for the Metrolink 111 Conductor During the Past 2 ½ Years**

- Enclosed is a report identifying each documented efficiency test that was administered to the involved Conductor from 6/01/05 – 9/13/08. Please note that many other observations occurred but were not documented unless a failure was observed.

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## **3-CC: The Number of Occasions During the Past 2 ½ Years that California PUC or Federal Railroad Administration Participated in Efficiency Testing**

- Until 2008 the Connex Efficiency Test Database did not have a specifically designated field to document when FRA and PUC accompanied Connex managers in the joint tests.. The available documented information regarding joint tests is provided below. Additional tests may have been done by PUC and FRA without Connex present.
- Connex has determined that no single document exists which sets forth these instances of testing in a manner subject to attachment as an exhibit.
- **PUC Joint Testing with Connex**
  - 2006: 2 Documented Occasions
  - 2007: 0 Documented Occasions
  - 2008: 7 Documented Occasions
  - 2009: 3 Documented Occasions
- **FRA Joint Efficiency Testing**
  - 2006, 2007 and 2008 – One day per year

## **3-DD: Trending Information from Efficiency Testing Database Analysis Showing the Effectiveness of Testing and Training Programs**

- A review of Connex records indicates in 2006, there were 74 recorded efficiency test failures for safety critical rules. In 2007, the number of recorded efficiency failures decreased to 58 on safety critical rules. In 2008 the number of recorded efficiency failures decreased to 40 on safety critical rules.
- Please see the attached graph showing this downward trend in efficiency test failures.

## **3-EE: Documentation of Training Done in Connection with Operational Test Failures Between Managers and Employees**

- Remedial training procedures for Conductors and Engineers are enclosed.

## **3-FF: Copies of the Two FRA 217 Audits Conducted in January 2009, and the Previous Test; the Results and Recommendations of these Audits**

- The FRA Audit Memorandum from April 2, 2007 is enclosed.

## **3-GG: Examples of Efficiency Tests Employed by Veolia Transportation on Its Other Systems in the United States and in Other Countries, Dealing With Operation Rules Oversight and Enforcement**

Enclosed are the following documents, which Connex believes fulfills the Board's request for "examples" in this regard:

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- Veolia Sydney Proficiency Testing
- Connex Transport Ireland Driver Performance Online Monitoring Examples
- Connex Transport Ireland Tramway Safety Instruction Manual
- Dublin Competence Assessment Standard for Drivers
- Tri- Rail CFR Submission
- Tri- Rail Examples
- Massachusetts Operational Tests and Inspection Manual
- Massachusetts Operational Test and Inspection Examples

### 3-HH: Connex Training Modules on Crew-Resource Management

- Copies of documents entitled “Connex Crew Resource Management 2005” and “Connex Crew Resource Management 2009” are enclosed.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

  
TOMMY MCDONALD  
Party Representative

cc: Public Hearing Party Spokespersons (listed below; all via U.S. Mail)

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