

Closing Statement

In closing, I would like to recognize the hard work of the NTSB staff in investigating these accidents and drafting this special investigation report. I especially want to thank our investigators-in-charge of these accident investigations, Jim Southworth and Ted Turpin - and another thanks to Ted for also leading the special investigation report team. Thanks also to Member Dinh-Zarr, our Board Member on scene in Hoboken, and thanks to both of my colleagues on the board for the good debate and discussion today.

Today's new recommendations, if acted upon, have the potential to eliminate end-of-track collisions. That translates to protection for passengers on trains, and for people standing on terminal platforms.

The reiterated recommendations on sleep apnea screening and treatment speak for themselves. The broader issues of reducing fatigue-related accidents and demanding medical fitness are both on NTSB's Most Wanted List of transportation safety improvements. Once more, these accidents remind us why.

The traveling public deserves alert operators. That is not too much to ask.

We stand adjourned.

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