



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: November 26, 2012

In reply refer to: R-12-37 and -38

The Honorable Joseph C. Szabo
Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
Washington, DC 20590

On November 5, 2012, the NTSB adopted its report concerning the May 8, 2011, accident, in which Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation train 820 struck the bumping post at the end of the track at the Hoboken station in Hoboken, New Jersey.¹ Additional information about this accident and the resulting recommendations may be found in the report of the investigation, which can be accessed at our website, <http://www.nts.gov>.

As a result of this investigation, the NTSB issued two safety recommendations to the Federal Railroad Administration:

R-12-37

Audit the waiver process to verify it is being managed as required by Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 211.

R-12-38

Audit the inspection and enforcement program in all regions for compliance with statutes and regulations related to railroad safety, and correct any deficiencies as required by Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 209.

These safety recommendations are derived from the NTSB's investigation and are consistent with the evidence we found and the analysis we performed. Chairman HERSMAN, Vice Chairman HART, and Members SUMWALT, ROSEKIND, and WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

¹ *Collision of Port Authority Trans-Hudson Train with Bumping Post at Hoboken Station, Hoboken, New Jersey, May 8, 2011*, Railroad Accident Report NTSB/RAR-12/05 (Washington, D.C.: National Transportation Safety Board, 2012).

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement these recommendations. When responding, please refer to the safety recommendations by their recommendation number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov. If it exceeds 10 megabytes, please e-mail us at the same address for instructions. To avoid confusion, please do not submit both an electronic copy and a hard copy of the same response.

[Original Signed]

By: Deborah A.P. Hersman
Chairman