

Task No. 15-04: Hazardous Materials

to the

54th Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

November 5, 2015



FRA – Office of Railroad Safety

11/9/2015



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Railroad
Administration**

Hazardous Materials Working Group

Overview

- ◆ Purpose
- ◆ Description
- ◆ Issue requiring special report
- ◆ Questions

Hazardous Materials Working Group

Purpose

- ❖ In partnership with Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
- ❖ Consider revisions to the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR), 49 CFR Parts 171-180, to enhance rail safety

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Review and understand:

- ◆ Review 49 CFR Part 171
- ◆ Review 49 CFR Part 173
- ◆ Review 49 CFR Part 174
- ◆ Review 49 CFR Part 179
- ◆ Review 49 CFR Part 180

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Issues requiring specific report

Part 171

- ❖ Review, discuss, and consider updates to regulations related to materials incorporated by reference in Section 171.7 (Specifications for Tank Cars, Specification M-1002)
- ❖ Definitions in § 171.8

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Issues requiring specific report

Part 173

- ❖ Review, discuss, and consider updates to regulations related to tank car loading and unloading operations including trans-loading operations

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Issues requiring specific report

Part 174

- ❖ Tank car loading and unloading operations including trans-loading operations
- ❖ Train placement
- ❖ Movement of defective tank cars
- ❖ Shipping papers, notice to train crews, coupling speed restrictions
- ❖ Movement of trailers or containers on flat cars
- ❖ Movement of energy products in large blocks or in unit trains



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Issues requiring specific report

Part 179 and 180

- ❖ Definitions of critical terms such as “tank car,” “tank car facility,” “failure,” etc. and the consistent application of those terms throughout the regulations (Parts 173 and 180).
- ❖ Organize, simplify and clarify the regulations related to tank car construction and quality assurance programs

Questions?