



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Task Statement: Risk Reduction Program

Task No.: 11-04

Date initially presented to the RSAC: December 8, 2011

Purpose: To develop requirements for certain railroads to develop a Risk Reduction Program as mandated by the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (Act).

Description:

- Review the mandates and objectives of the Act related to the development of Risk Reduction Programs.
- Determine which railroads will be required to have a Risk Reduction Program.
- Consider the role of current voluntary pilot projects in the regulation.
- Consider the various railroads' current practices regarding risk-based hazard analysis, and how they mitigate identified risks.
- Develop a framework to incorporate the requirements of section 103(g) into the development of Risk Reduction Plans.

Issues requiring specific report:

- Determine the required elements of an acceptable Risk Reduction Program.
- Determine minimum requirements for:
Risk Reduction Program Plan
- Determine the approach to risk-based hazard analysis, (i.e. hazard identification, risk analysis and assessment, and risk mitigation.) Establish time frames of program submission, FRA review, railroad re-submission, etc.
- Select criteria to identify railroads that have an inadequate safety record.
- Identify the compliance duration/cycle for railroads with inadequate safety records
- How should Risk Reduction Program Plans address Technology Implementation Plan?
- Final determination regarding which risk-based hazard data should be protected from discovery.
- What processes should be in place in the event a Risk Reduction Program Plan is not approved?
- What processes will be used to periodically audit Risk Reduction Programs after they have been approved?

Authority: Section 20156(a-g), title 49, United States Code, as enacted by section 103, Division A, Public Law No. 110-432.

Refer to/establish following working group: Risk Reduction Working Group

Target Dates: NPRM publication by July 2012 and Final Rule by December 2012.

Disposition: Accepted

Accepted Date: December 8, 2011