



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

(Insert at Tab 13)

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee
Task Statement:
Railroad Operating Practices - Blue Signal Protection of Workmen**

Task No. : 2000-1

Date presented to the RSAC: January 28, 2000

Purpose:

To promote the protection of persons who work on, under, or between rolling equipment and the safety of persons applying, removing or inspecting rear end marking devices.

Description:

To investigate available safety data and facts to determine whether there is a need to amend and, if so, to propose any appropriate amendments or revisions to title Subpart B of Part 218, and section 221.16 of Part 221, title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, including associated definitions and any other directly related matters. Provide advice to FRA concerning disposition of any issues that may arise during rulemaking, through issuance of a final rule.

Issues requiring specific report:

The committee should consider, and specifically report on, the following issues:

- (1) Inclusion of contractors (on and off railroad property);
- (2) Visibility of blue signal;
- (3) One person crew protection;
- (4) Locomotive servicing area;
- (5) Remote control derails; and radio activated switches
- (6) Inspection/placement/removal of Rear End Markers;
- (7) Utility employees;
- (8) Impacts of current rule and proposed changes on small entities; and
- (9) Feasibility of sunseting existing waivers in favor of permanent regulatory changes.

Refer to:

Blue Signal Working Group

Target dates:

5/15/2000 Report milestones and timetable for resolution of issues and preparation of proposed rule, as appropriate

Disposition: Accepted

Date: 1/28/2000