

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Task Statement: Part 225 Accident Reporting

Task No.: 19-01

Date initially presented to the RSAC: February 13, 2019

Purpose: To consider specific improvements to enhance the quality of information available for railroad casualty analysis, including specific improvements to the FRA Reporting Guide, FRA forms, and data validation procedures.

Background: Every 8-10 years, the Federal Railroad Administration looks at updating the Part 225 *FRA Guide for Preparing Accident/Incident Reports*; as of May 25, 2017, the last time that this document and its related forms were updated was in 2011. This initiative is also in response to Recommendation R-16-33 from the National Safety Transportation Board:

Modify Form 6180.54 (Rail Equipment Accident/Incident Report) to include the number of crewmembers in the controlling cab of the train as the time of the accident.

Description: Review and consider the following:

- Making improvements, clarification and enhancements to the *FRA Guide for Preparing Accident/Incident Reports* and the forms themselves;
- Adding recommendations from the NTSB for data fields to be added to reporting forms (e.g., crew location at time of accident);
- Formalizing collection of energy products involved in Accidents/Incidents;
- Eliminating collection of duplicative information on multiple forms, and combining multiple forms;
- Clarifying and standardizing contractor-related reportable data, specifically for passenger- and commuter railroad operations;
- Improving and clarifying reporting responsibilities of railroads operating over shared-use corridors;
- Cause codes, job codes, injury- and illness codes, and circumstance codes for any needed additions;
- Clarifying when plant railroads do and do not have to report, especially if they have taken over general system track and grade crossings;
- Standardizing reporting responsibilities of entities that own and have responsibility for grade crossings or track, but are not carriers in the traditional sense; and,
- Evaluating 49 CFR § Part 225 to determine the effect of changing accountable data from a record-keeping requirement to a monthly FRA-reporting requirement.

Issues requiring specific report: The Part 225 Reporting Working Group will consider the issues presented in the description above. The working group may add issues if unanimously agreed to by its members. The working group will report its recommendations to the Committee, and, if appropriate, develop guidance and/or draft regulatory language to address these issues.

Refer to/establish the following working group: The Part 225 Accident Reporting Working Group

Target Dates: Report initial recommendations and ongoing work plan to the Committee by no later than one year from the kick-off meeting date.

Disposition: Accepted

Accepted Date: April 24, 2019