



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Transit  
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

July 28, 2025

Ms. Meredith Biggica  
Deputy Secretary for Multimodal Transportation  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Keystone Building  
400 North St., Fifth Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Subject:** Responding to PennDOT's letters on the oversight process related to Required Actions FTA-24-5-008 and FTA-24-5-010

Dear Ms. Biggica:

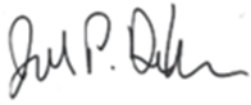
In the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's (PennDOT) correspondence on April 25 and April 30, 2025, PennDOT asked for clarification regarding standards relating to Rail Equipment, Engineering and maintenance standards.

PennDOT noted in its April 25, 2025 letter that it is "not currently ware of a mandatory safety standard for an REE&M rules compliance program" and REE&M calibration practice for precision instruments/tooling. PennDOT requested insight into how FTA evaluated the submitted SOPs during the Safety Management Inspection. FTA notes that the [American Public Transportation Association](#) and [American National Standards Institute](#) publish industry standards on this issue. Moreover, the absence of a prescriptive federal standard does not preclude FTA from identifying objective deficiencies before closing a required action properly issued via special directive, especially when the required action directs the recipient to submit documentation to FTA for review, approval, and implementation monitoring. FTA's resubmissions letters were drafted to make it clear which deficiencies needed to be addressed before we could close the required actions.

FTA looks forward to receiving the final SOP submissions for FTA-24-5-008 and FTA-24-5-010 within 5 days of PennDOT's approval.

If you have any questions, please contact Syed Ahmed, Special Directive Coordinator, at [syed.ahmed@dot.gov](mailto:syed.ahmed@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe P. DeLorenzo".

Joe DeLorenzo  
Associate Administrator and  
Chief Safety Officer  
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

cc: Ms. Elizabeth Bonini, Director, State Safety Oversight Office, PennDOT  
Mr. J.M. McLaughlin, State Safety Oversight Regional Manager, PennDOT  
Ms. Terry Garcia Crews, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 3  
Mr. Tony Tarone, Deputy Regional Administrator, FTA Region 3  
Mr. Jonathan Wohlhagen, General Engineer, FTA Region 3