



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

MAY 11 2016

Dear State Safety Oversight Program Managers:

Today the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued Safety Advisory 16-2 to determine the safety performance of contact rail traction power electrification (TPE) systems. The safety performance of these TPE systems can deteriorate with age, inattention, and exposure to environmental conditions. Recently, FTA has investigated several safety events related to failures of contact rail TPE systems. Data from the rail transit agencies which use contact rail TPE systems will enable FTA to better understand the rate of contact rail system hazards in the rail transit industry.

Safety Advisory 16-2 solicits readily available data from the State Safety Oversight Agencies on rail transit systems which use contact rail TPE systems. Data should be submitted within 90 days after the publication of Safety Advisory 16.2.

Questions may be directed to Mr. Sam Shelton, Office of System Safety, at (202) 366-0815 or by email at Sam.Shelton@dot.gov. We very much appreciate your prompt attention to this request.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Littleton", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas Littleton
Associate Administrator
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight