NTD 2.0 In System Validation

Overview

In the Report Year 2016, FTA will introduce a feature that allows transit agencies to review and address validation issues within the NTD 2.0 system. By using this internal process to validate data, you can reduce the overall time dedicated to submitting and revising your reports by:

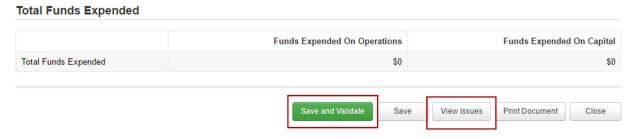
Reviewing and filtering a comprehensive list of all data validation items prior to completing the Original Submission;

Preemptively resolving issues by revising incorrect data or missing fields; or

Proactively providing explanations regarding annual data fluctuations to the NTD analyst, when applicable.

Beginning the Internal Validation Process

You should continue to enter and save data into the annual report package as you have done in prior report years. For the 2016 Report Year, you will see two new options at the bottom of each report form: the "Save and Validate" and "View Issues" buttons.



Save and Validate

If you want to enter partial data into a report form and revisit at a later time, select the regular "Save" button. When the form is complete and ready for review, the "Save and Validate" button applies the rules of validation to all data entered in the form. Select this option every time you revise or enter new data.

Viewing Issues

After hitting the "Save and Validate" button, select "View Issues." The resulting page displays all validation issues and allows you to respond accordingly, either by revising the data or providing explanations when applicable. After addressing all validation items, you will be able to submit the report for review based on your user role.



Additionally, you have the option to filter all validation items depending on the Module (asset, financial, etc.), Criticality (important versus critical), Form (any form in the report package), Issue Type (system-generated or manually created by the analyst), or Mode.

Please note that critical issues may require a change in data to close the issue.

Validation Issue Types

Similar to previous NTD report years, all validation issues can be considered "Open" or "Closed." However, the internal validation system allows for a more specific subset of issue status types, including "Open with Explanation," "Open and Escalated," "Closed with Data Revision," "Closed with Exception."

Open Issue Types

Open

 Validation checks that fire upon saving data are considered "Open." Any validation checks that the analyst returns for further revision are also considered "Open." All open validation items must be addressed and resolved before the report year closeout.



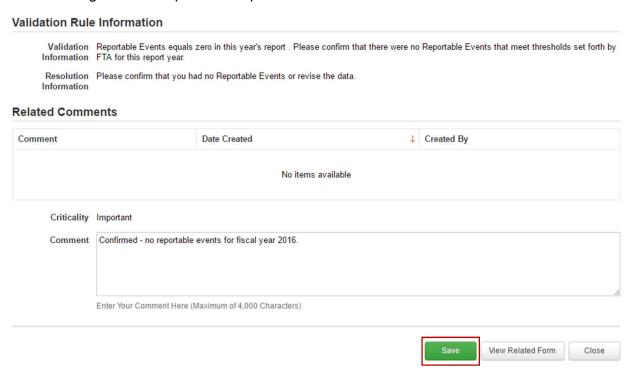
Open and Escalated

A validation issue may introduce a unique, agency-specific circumstance for which an analyst cannot immediately make a judgement call. In these cases, the analyst would bring the issue to FTA's attention for further review. While the issue is pending resolution, it is marked "Open and Escalated." These types of issues do not need to be resolved prior to the report year closeout.



Open with Explanation

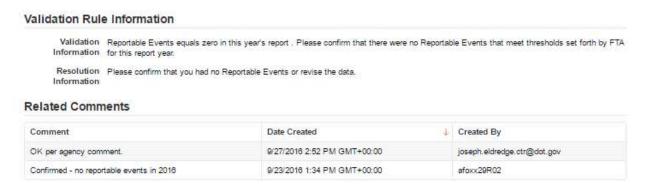
Certain validation issues do not necessarily require a change in the data itself. You may provide explanations for data that is correct but requires further clarification. Analysts review these comments and close issues accordingly with each report submission. While the explanation is pending analyst approval, the issue is regarded as "Open with Explanation."



Closed Issue Types

Closed

 An issue which the NTD analyst manually accepts, thereby "closes," after reviewing the agency's official response.



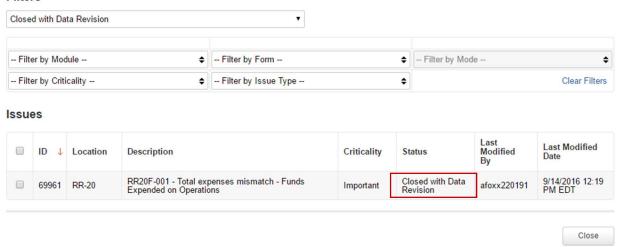
Issues



Closed with Data Revision

Some validation checks fire as a result of a data entry error. In these instances, navigate back to the appropriate form and revise the incorrect values. After making this change, reselect the "Save and Validate" button. If the error is correctly addressed, this item would be newly listed as "Closed with Data Revision" on the "View Issues" page. This status is automatically updated and does not require analyst approval.

Filters



Closed with Exception

This is an "Open and Escalated" issue that FTA has reviewed and decided to mark as "Questionable" in the annual data product publications. These issues are theoretically resolved, but the relevant data points do not meet NTD reporting requirements. Thus, the issue is not officially "Closed" by NTD standards, but "Closed with Exception" per the questionable notation. You must take steps to report this data correctly in the following report year.

Issues

