



**AMERICAN  
PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION  
ASSOCIATION**

January 10, 2011

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Docket Operations  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.  
M-30, West Building  
Ground Floor, Room W12-140,  
Washington, DC, 20590

**RE: Docket Number FRA-2009-0035**

Dear Docket Clerk:

On behalf of the more than 1,500 member organizations of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), I write to provide comments on the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Conductor Certification, published November 10, 2010, at 75 FR 69166.

***About APTA***

APTA is a non-profit international trade association of more than 1,500 public and private member organizations, including public transit systems; high-speed intercity passenger rail agencies; planning, design, construction and finance firms; product and service providers; academic institutions; and state associations and departments of transportation. More than ninety percent of Americans who use public transportation are served by APTA member transit systems.

**General Comments**

APTA endorses the comments filed by our colleagues at the Association of American Railroads (AAR), and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK). Taken together, these submissions represent the consensus position of APTA member commuter railroads.

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Additionally, individual railroads operate under a variety of management systems and labor agreements, as well as within unique operating conditions. We urge FRA to carefully consider the submissions of individual railroads and strive to accommodate these differences to avoid creating burdensome administrative requirements that do not enhance safe operations.

We appreciate the opportunity to assist FRA in this important endeavor. For additional information, please contact James LaRusch, APTA's chief counsel and vice president corporate affairs, at (202) 496-4808 or [jlarsch@apta.com](mailto:jlarsch@apta.com).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Millar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "W" and a long, sweeping tail.

William Millar  
President

WM/rk