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Sent: 12/4/2012 2:30:06 PM
To: Prosper, Terrie D. (terrie.prosper@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CPUC Report Details Actions Taken to Ensure Safe Railroad Operations in State:
CPUC Information Alert

CPUC Information Alert: CPUC Report Details Actions Taken to Ensure Safe Railroad Operations in State

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has issued its Annual Railroad Safety Activity Report to the California State Legislature detailing the actions the CPUC has taken to ensure the safe operations of railroads in the state.

The CPUC ensures the safety of freight railroads and crews, commuter railroads and their crews and passengers, and highway-railroad crossings in California.

As outlined in the report, during the past fiscal year the CPUC's rail safety inspectors have:

- Performed inspections and drafted 4,587 inspection and follow-up reports to monitor railroad compliance and remedial actions.
- Identified 14,622 defects in track, locomotive, rail cars, signals, operating practices, and hazardous materials shipping practices.
- Cited 276 defect violations of the Federal Railroad Administration regulations, California statutes, and CPUC General Orders.
- Surveyed and inspected 198,286 units (a unit is one inspection or observation, such as of a rail car, a locomotive, a mile of track, a switch, an observation of operating rules compliance, a signal box, a railroad crossing warning device, and a hazardous materials shipment).
- Performed 30 security inspections throughout the state.

- Responded to 21 informal complaints from railroad employees and the general public.
- Educated more than 8,948 people through 89 presentations on safety awareness near tracks and trains through Operation Lifesaver.
- Issued two Citations totaling \$60,000 for violations of certain state General Orders and Public Utilities Codes.

The CPUC is working to enhance the safety culture of the railroad industry as well as its own safety culture, and will ensure that identification and mitigation or elimination of hazards is not limited to existing regulations and non-compliance with those regulations.

The report is available on the CPUC's website at:
http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/B115E8E1-97FE-4462-9B79-2AD0A5679485/0/AnnualRailroadSafetyActivityReporttotheCaliforniaStateLegislature_v2.pdf.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Terrie

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