



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Railroad
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

<<whole name>>
<<address1>>
<<address2>>
<<location>>

November 10, 2009

Subject: Track Inspector Survey

Dear <<whole name>>:

As you may know, the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 has charged the Federal Railroad Administration with the responsibility for preparing a Track Inspection Time Study for Congress. This report must address several aspects of the track inspection process including the intervals for inspection of different classes of track, methods of inspection, remedial actions, and the speed at which railroad track inspection vehicles operate and the scope of the territory that they cover. To assemble the information that the FRA needs to prepare this report, we are undertaking several data collection activities. Data from a survey of track inspectors will provide much of the information that the FRA needs for this report as well as our recommendations to Congress.

You are among a group of randomly selected track inspectors that are being asked to complete the enclosed survey. BMWED supports the FRA's efforts to collect this data and has provided a list of their members to receive this survey. To insure that your response is kept private, the FRA has engaged the services of QinetiQ North America Technology Solutions Group (TSG) for executing the survey. The names and personal information of the participants will be kept private to the extent provided by law, and the data gathered will only be used to compile the information as a group. After the study's conclusion, all the personal data gathered, including the names and addresses of survey participants, will be destroyed and only the compiled information will be incorporated into our Report to Congress.

Please provide responses to all of the items on the enclosed survey. The survey instrument includes the names of individuals at TSG that you may contact with questions. A postage-paid envelope is included for the return of your completed survey. Please return the survey by February 1, 2010.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important survey.

Sincerely,

Joseph Szabo
Administrator