

**SUMMARY:** This document provides the public with notice that, on September 20, 2024, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) submitted a request for amendment (RFA) to its FRA-certified positive train control (PTC) system to establish a Construction Zone (CZ) during November and December 2024, in order to install Automatic Train Control (ATC) on the final segment of MBTA's Fitchburg Line between CPF-330 and CPF-335. As this RFA may involve a request for FRA's approval of proposed material modifications to an FRA-certified PTC system, FRA is publishing this notice and inviting public comment on MBTA's RFA to its PTC system.

**DATES:** FRA will consider comments received by October 22, 2024. FRA may consider comments received after that date to the extent practicable and without delaying implementation of valuable or necessary modifications to a PTC system.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Comments:* Comments may be submitted by going to <https://www.regulations.gov> and following the online instructions for submitting comments.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include the agency name and the applicable docket number. The relevant PTC docket number for this host railroad is Docket No. FRA-2010-0030. For convenience, all active PTC dockets are hyperlinked on FRA's website at <https://railroads.dot.gov/research-development/program-areas/train-control/ptc/railroads-ptc-dockets>. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>; this includes any personal information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Gabe Neal, Staff Director, Signal, Train Control, and Crossings Division, telephone: 816-516-7168, email: [Gabe.Neal@dot.gov](mailto:Gabe.Neal@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In general, title 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) section 20157(h) requires FRA to certify that a host railroad's PTC system complies with title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 236, subpart I, before the technology may be operated in revenue service. Before making certain changes to an FRA-certified PTC system or the associated FRA-approved PTC Safety Plan (PTCSP), a host railroad must submit, and obtain FRA's approval of, an RFA to its PTC system or PTCSP under 49 CFR 236.1021.

Under 49 CFR 236.1021(e), FRA's regulations provide that FRA will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** and invite public comment in

accordance with 49 CFR part 211, if an RFA includes a request for approval of a material modification of a signal or train control system. Accordingly, this notice informs the public that, on September 20, 2024, MBTA submitted an RFA to its PTCSP for its Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System II (ACSES-II), which seeks FRA's approval of MBTA's request to temporarily disable its ACSES-II system to establish a CZ during November and December 2024, in order to install ATC on the final segment of MBTA's Fitchburg Line between CPF-330 and CPF-335. That RFA is available in Docket No. FRA-2010-0030.

Interested parties are invited to comment on MBTA's RFA by submitting written comments or data. During FRA's review of MBTA's RFA, FRA will consider any comments or data submitted within the timeline specified in this notice and to the extent practicable, without delaying implementation of valuable or necessary modifications to a PTC system. See 49 CFR 236.1021; see also 49 CFR 236.1011(e). Under 49 CFR 236.1021, FRA maintains the authority to approve, approve with conditions, or deny a railroad's RFA at FRA's sole discretion.

**Privacy Act Notice**

In accordance with 49 CFR 211.3, FRA solicits comments from the public to better inform its decisions. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to <https://www.regulations.gov>, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See <https://www.regulations.gov/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). To facilitate comment tracking, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact FRA for alternate submission instructions.

Issued in Washington, DC.

**Carolyn R. Hayward-Williams,**

*Director, Office of Railroad Systems and Technology.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Railroad Administration**

**Notice of Funding Opportunity for Projects Located Off the Northeast Corridor for the Fiscal Year 2024 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program**

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Railroad Administration has published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which details the application requirements and procedures to obtain grant funding for eligible projects under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program for Projects Not Located on the Northeast Corridor. The total funding available for awards under this NOFO is up to \$1,057,596,637. The full text of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) can be found on FRA's website at <https://railroads.dot.gov/federal-state-partnership-intercity-passenger> and at [www.Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov) using the funding opportunity ID FR-FSP-24-003.

**DATES:** Applications for funding under this solicitation are due no later than 11:59 p.m. EST, December 16, 2024. Applications that are incomplete or received after 11:59 p.m. EST, December 16, 2024 will not be considered for funding. See section D of the NOFO for additional information on the application process.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications must be submitted via [www.Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov). Only applicants who comply with all submission requirements described in this notice and submit applications through [www.Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov) will be eligible for award. For any supporting application materials that an applicant is unable to submit via [www.Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov) (such as oversized engineering drawings), an applicant may submit an original and two (2) copies to Office of Rail Program Development, Federal Railroad Administration, 220 Binney Street, Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA 02142. However, due to delays caused by enhanced screening of mail delivered via the U.S. Postal Service, applicants are advised to use other means of conveyance (such as courier service) to ensure timely receipt of materials before the application deadline.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information concerning this notice, please contact the FRA NOFO Support program staff via email at [FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov](mailto:FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov). If additional

assistance is needed, you may contact Sergio Coronado, 617-571-1213, [Sergio.Coronado@dot.gov](mailto:Sergio.Coronado@dot.gov); Caitlyn Mitchell, 202-579-3867, [Caitlyn.Mitchell@dot.gov](mailto:Caitlyn.Mitchell@dot.gov); or Marc Dixon, 202-493-0614, [Marc.Dixon@dot.gov](mailto:Marc.Dixon@dot.gov); in FRA's Office of Rail Program Development.

Allison Ishihara Fultz,  
Chief Counsel.

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

[Docket No.: PHMSA-2024-0161; Notice No. 2024-14]

**Hazardous Materials: Notice of Hazardous Materials Transportation Seminar**

**AGENCY:** Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of public seminar.

**SUMMARY:** The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's

(PHMSA) Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS) will hold a free Hazardous Materials Transportation Seminar from October 30, 2024, through November 1, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, One South Capital Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204. The seminar will be a three-day event with a broad focus on outreach and engagement with PHMSA's stakeholders. Targeted stakeholders include shippers, transporters, and small business particularly in underserved communities, and emergency responders.

**DATES:** October 30, 2024, through November 1, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, One South Capital Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204. PHMSA requests that attendees register for the seminar at: [opsweb.phmsa.dot.gov/hm\\_seminars/default\\_workshop.asp](https://opsweb.phmsa.dot.gov/hm_seminars/default_workshop.asp).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marc Nichols or Clayton Hatfield, Hazardous Materials Field Operations, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: (202) 360-0664, Email:

[Marc.Nichols@dot.gov](mailto:Marc.Nichols@dot.gov) or [Clayton.Hatfield@dot.gov](mailto:Clayton.Hatfield@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** OHMS's goal is to share information about PHMSA as a safety agency, its grant program, the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG), and equip small businesses with tools for success. We will also give attendees an opportunity to learn from experts about the requirements for the safe transportation of hazardous materials and hear from the agency's top leaders and subject matter experts. Additionally, the seminar will further provide an open platform for the exchange of ideas and efforts toward the safe transportation of hazardous materials. Lastly, the seminar is an opportunity to discuss with stakeholders any potential hazardous materials safety concerns that OHMS should consider in developing future training opportunities or other safety initiatives.

PHMSA requests that attendees register for the seminar at: [opsweb.phmsa.dot.gov/hm\\_seminars/default\\_workshop.asp](https://opsweb.phmsa.dot.gov/hm_seminars/default_workshop.asp).

The schedule of sessions is as follows:

**Wednesday, October 30th**

**PHMSA: WHO WE ARE AND HOW WE CAN HELP**

Time (EST)	Regency ballroom
1:00 p.m.–1:45 p.m	Welcoming Remarks, PHMSA Overview, Grants and ERG 2024. Break. Obtaining Government Contracts. Break. Small Business Development. End of Day.
1:45 p.m.–2:00 p.m	
2:00 p.m.–2:45 p.m	
2:45 p.m.–3:00 p.m	
3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m	
4:00 p.m	

**Thursday, October 31st & Friday, November 1st**

**HAZMAT SAFETY SESSIONS**

Time (EST)	Regency ballroom
9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.m	PHMSA and TRANSCAER: Welcoming Remarks. Break.
9:45 a.m.–10:00 a.m	

Time	Regency ballroom	Concept room	Vision room	Studio room	Theory room
10:00 a.m.–10:45 a.m. ....	Rail Car Safety .....	Electric Bus Fire and Sodium Hydroxide Tank Explosion Lessons Learned.	Hazardous Materials Incident Reporting.	"Who is PHMSA?" .....	Shipping Papers and Emergency Response.
10:45 a.m.–11:00 a.m. ....	Break				
11:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m. ....	Highway Cargo Tank Safety.	Accident Investigation Team..	2024 Emergency Response Guidebook.	Lithium Battery Safety ....	Placarding Requirements.
11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m. ....	Lunch				