



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 11, 2020

SENT VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Jeremy R. Ferguson
President, SMART Transportation Division
24950 Country Club Boulevard
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

Dennis R. Pierce
President, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen
7061 East Pleasant Valley Road
Independence, Ohio 44131

Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Pierce:

Thank you for your letter regarding COVID-19. The Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) top priority is the safety of the United States rail industry, including its employees, passengers, and other users. FRA has been monitoring this issue closely and confers regularly on its impacts with railroad service providers.

The Administration has taken a whole-of-government approach which has paved the way for a whole-of-America response, with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) being the appropriate governmental source for guidance on COVID-19. You can find valuable information about this disease at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Please feel free to call my office at 202-493-6014 if you would like to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Batory
Administrator