

■ b. Under the heading “Submission by a Railroad and Directly Affected Employees,” revising paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) and removing paragraph (e).

The revisions to read as follows:

Appendix B to Part 271—Procedures for Submission of RRP Plans, RRP Plan Amendments, and Statements From Directly Affected Employees

This appendix summarizes procedures for the submission of an RRP plan, an amendment to an already-approved RRP plan, or a statement by directly affected employees consistent with the requirements of this part.

Submission by a Railroad and Directly Affected Employees

(a) As provided for in § 271.101(a), each railroad must establish and fully implement an RRP that continually and systematically evaluates railroad safety hazards on its system and manages the resulting risks to reduce the number and rates of railroad accidents, incidents, injuries, and fatalities. The RRP shall be fully implemented and supported by a written RRP plan. Each railroad must submit its RRP plan to FRA for approval as provided for in § 271.301 and RRP plan amendments as provided for in § 271.303.

* * * * *

(c) The railroad’s and directly affected employees’ submissions shall be sent to the Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety and Chief Safety Officer, FRA, at FRA-RRP@dot.gov. When a railroad submits to FRA its RRP plan and consultation statement pursuant to § 271.301 or RRP plan amendment and consultation statement pursuant to § 271.303, it must also simultaneously send a copy of these documents to all individuals identified in the service list pursuant to § 271.207(d)(3) or § 271.303.

(d) Each railroad and directly affected employee is authorized to file by electronic means any submissions required under this part. A railroad that electronically submits an initial RRP plan or an RRP plan amendment pursuant to this part shall be considered to have provided its consent to receive approval or disapproval notices from FRA by email. FRA may electronically store any materials required by this part.

Issued in Washington, DC.

Kyle D. Fields,
Chief Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

49 CFR Part 272

[Docket No. FRA–2025–0114]

RIN 2130–AD45

Administrative Updates to the Federal Railroad Administration’s Critical Incident Stress Plans Regulations

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule makes administrative updates to FRA’s critical incident stress plans regulations, including updating addresses in those regulations.

DATES: Effective July 1, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Veronica Chittim, Senior Attorney, Office of Safety Law, Office of the Chief Counsel, FRA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone 202–480–3410), veronica.chittim@dot.gov; or Lucinda Henriksen, Senior Advisor, Office of Railroad Safety, FRA (telephone 202–657–2842), lucinda.henriksen@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Consistent with the deregulatory agenda of President Donald J. Trump and Secretary of Transportation Sean P. Duffy, which seeks to unleash America’s economic prosperity without compromising transportation safety, and as described in more detail below, this rule is making miscellaneous, administrative updates to its regulations in 49 CFR part 272. These changes include updating addresses that are no longer valid.

II. Section-by-Section Analysis

Part 272

§ 272.11 Penalties

FRA is amending § 272.11(a) by replacing references to specific penalty amounts with general references to the minimum civil monetary penalty, ordinary maximum civil monetary penalty, and aggravated maximum civil monetary penalty. FRA is adding language to this section referring readers to 49 CFR part 209, appendix A, where FRA will continue to specify statutorily provided civil penalty amounts updated for inflation. FRA is also including a reference to <https://railroads.dot.gov/> for a statement of agency civil penalty policy. To be consistent with other

penalty provisions, such as 49 CFR 214.5, FRA is adding a parenthetical to define “person” in this context.

§ 272.105 Requirement To File Critical Incident Stress Plan Electronically

FRA is amending § 272.105(a) to direct a railroad to submit a critical incident stress (CISP) plan or an update to that CISP plan to the email address FRA-CISP@dot.gov instead of through the website <http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/CISP>.

III. Public Participation

Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), an agency may waive the normal notice and comment procedures if the action is a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice. 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A). Additionally, under the APA, an agency may waive notice and comment procedures when the agency for good cause finds that notice and public procedure are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). Since this final rule merely makes miscellaneous, administrative updates to the CFR, such as updating web addresses, it would not benefit from public comment, and notice and comment is not necessary.

IV. Regulatory Impact and Notices

A. Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review) and DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures

FRA has evaluated this final rule in accordance with E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review (58 FR 51735, Oct. 4, 1993), and DOT Order 2100.6B, Policies and Procedures for Rulemaking (Mar. 10, 2025). The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) determined that this final rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of E.O. 12866.

Because this final rule makes administrative changes such as replacing references to specific penalty amounts with general references to the minimum civil monetary penalty, ordinary maximum civil monetary penalty, and aggravated maximum civil monetary penalty, referring readers to the CFR, and updating web addresses, this final rule imparts no additional burdens on regulated entities. Moreover, this rule will provide some qualitative benefits to regulated entities and the U.S. government, by clarifying the language of part 272 and directing the regulated entities to the appropriate sites in the CFR.

B. E.O. 14192 (Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation)

E.O. 14192, Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation (90 FR 9065, Jan. 31, 2025), requires that for “each new [E.O. 14192 regulatory action] issued, at least ten prior regulations be identified for elimination.”¹ Implementation guidance for E.O. 14192 issued by OMB (Memorandum M–25–20, March 26, 2025) defines two different types of E.O. 14192 actions: an E.O. 14192 deregulatory action, and an E.O. 14192 regulatory action.²

An E.O. 14192 deregulatory action is defined as “an action that has been finalized and has total costs less than zero.” This final rule is expected to have total costs less than zero, and therefore it would be considered an E.O. 14192 deregulatory action.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act and E.O. 13272

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 ((RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) and E.O. 13272 (67 FR 53461, Aug. 16, 2002) require an agency to prepare and make available to the public a regulatory flexibility analysis that describes the effect of the rule on small entities (*i.e.*, small businesses, small organizations, and small governmental jurisdictions). A regulatory flexibility analysis is not required when a rule is exempt from notice and comment rulemaking. FRA has determined that this rule is exempt from notice and comment rulemaking. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required for this rule.

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

There is no new collection of information requirements contained in this final rule, and in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, therefore, an information collection submission to OMB is not required. The recordkeeping and reporting requirements already contained in part 272 became effective when they were approved by OMB on June 7, 2024. The OMB Control No. is 2130–0602, and OMB approval expires on June 30, 2027.

E. Environmental Assessment

FRA has analyzed this rule for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In

accordance with 42 U.S.C. 4336 and DOT NEPA Order 5610.1C, FRA has determined that this rule is categorically excluded pursuant to 23 CFR 771.118(c)(4), “[p]lanning and administrative activities that do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as: [p]romulgation of rules, regulations, and directives.” This rulemaking is not anticipated to result in any environmental impacts, and there are no unusual or extraordinary circumstances present in connection with this rulemaking.

F. Federalism Implications

This final rule will not have a substantial effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Thus, in accordance with E.O. 13132, “Federalism” (64 FR 43255, Aug. 10, 1999), preparation of a Federalism Assessment is not warranted.

G. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

This final rule will not result in the expenditure, in the aggregate, of \$100,000,000 or more, adjusted for inflation, in any one year by State, local, or Indian Tribal governments, or the private sector. Thus, consistent with section 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4, 2 U.S.C. 1532), FRA is not required to prepare a written statement detailing the effect of such an expenditure.

H. Energy Impact

E.O. 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations that Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001), requires Federal agencies to prepare a Statement of Energy Effects for any “significant energy action.” FRA has evaluated this rule in accordance with E.O. 13211 and determined that this rule is not a “significant energy action” within the meaning of E.O. 13211.

I. E.O. 13175 (Tribal Consultation)

FRA has evaluated this final rule in accordance with the principles and criteria contained in E.O. 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, (Nov. 6, 2000). The final rule would not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, would not impose substantial direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments, and would not preempt tribal laws. Therefore, the funding and consultation requirements of E.O. 13175 do not apply, and a tribal

summary impact statement is not required.

J. International Trade Impact Assessment

The Trade Agreement Act of 1979 prohibits Federal agencies from engaging in any standards or related activities that create unnecessary obstacles to the foreign commerce of the U.S. Legitimate domestic objectives, such as safety, are not considered unnecessary obstacles. The statute also requires consideration of international standards and, where appropriate, that they be the basis for U.S. standards. This rulemaking is purely domestic in nature and is not expected to affect trade opportunities for U.S. firms doing business overseas or for foreign firms doing business in the U.S.

List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 272

Penalties, Railroad employees, Railroad safety, Railroads, Safety, Transportation.

The Final Rule

In consideration of the foregoing, FRA amends part 272 of chapter II, subtitle B of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 272—CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS PLANS

- 1. The authority citation for part 272 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 20103, 20107, 20109 note; 28 U.S.C. 2461 note; 49 CFR 1.89.

- 2. Revise § 272.11(a) to read as follows:

§ 272.11 Penalties.

(a) *Civil penalties.* A person (an entity of any type covered under 49 U.S.C. 21301, including the following: a railroad; a manager, supervisor, official, or other employee or agent of a railroad; any owner, manufacturer, lessor, or lessee of railroad equipment, track, or facilities; any independent contractor providing goods or services to a railroad; and any employee of such owner, manufacturer, lessor, lessee, or independent contractor) who violates any requirement of this part, or causes the violation of any such requirement, is subject to a civil penalty of at least the minimum civil monetary penalty and not more than the ordinary maximum civil monetary penalty per violation. However, penalties may be assessed against individuals only for willful violations, and a penalty not to exceed the aggravated maximum civil monetary penalty per violation may be assessed, where:

¹ Executive Office of the President. *Executive Order 14192 of January 31, 2025. Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation.* 90 FR 9065–9067. Feb. 6, 2025.

² Executive Office of the President. Office of Management and Budget. *Guidance Implementing Section 3 of Executive Order 14192, Titled “Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation.”* Memorandum M–25–20. Mar. 26, 2025.

(1) A grossly negligent violation, or a pattern of repeated violations, has created an imminent hazard of death or injury to persons, or

(2) A death or injury has occurred. See 49 CFR part 209, appendix A. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. See FRA's website at <https://railroads.dot.gov/> for a statement of agency civil penalty policy.

* * * * *

■ 3. Revise § 272.105(a) to read as follows:

§ 272.105 Requirement to file critical incident stress plan electronically.

(a) Each railroad subject to this part must submit its critical incident stress plan and any material modifications to that plan to the email address FRA-CISP@dot.gov.

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Issued in Washington, DC.

Kyle D. Fields,
Chief Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

49 CFR Part 601

[Docket No. FTA–2025–0003]

RIN 2132–AB52

Organization, Functions, and Procedures

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is revising its regulations on the agency's organization, functions, and procedures to update outdated information and increase clarity.

DATES: This final rule is effective on July 1, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heather Ueyama, Office of Chief Counsel, (202) 366–7374 or heather.ueyama@dot.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Purpose and Summary of Regulatory Action

This final rule amends FTA's regulations regarding the agency's organization, functions, and procedures

at 49 CFR part 601. These regulations describe the various offices of which FTA is comprised and the sources and locations of available information about FTA programs. They also provide information regarding FTA's procedures for rulemaking and emergency relief petitions.

Much of the information in the regulations is nearly twenty years out of date and no longer accurate. FTA last updated the provisions regarding emergency relief petitions in 2007 (72 FR 912). Most of the other provisions have not been updated since 2005 (70 FR 67318). Accordingly, FTA is amending part 601 to update outdated information and make other minor edits. These revisions will increase clarity for the public by providing accurate information about FTA's organizational structure and its procedures for rulemaking and emergency relief petitions.

II. Section-by-Section Analysis

Authority Citations

FTA has revised the authority citations for accuracy.

Subpart A—General Provisions

Section 601.1 Purpose

FTA made a minor, non-substantive edit to this section for clarity.

Section 601.2 Organization of FTA

FTA edited the heading of this section from “Organization of the Administration” to “Organization of FTA” for clarity. In paragraph (a), FTA added the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight and the Office of Regional Services to the list of headquarters offices. It also made a corresponding edit to revise the number of headquarters offices from eight to ten.

In paragraph (b), FTA removed the addresses and telephone numbers of its regional offices. This information is both outdated and subject to change in the future. In the list of regional offices, FTA has removed the Lower Manhattan Recovery Office and revised the table to reflect that the United States Virgin Islands are located in FTA Region IV, not Region II. These revisions are necessary to reflect the agency's current organizational structure accurately.

601.3 General Responsibilities

FTA has updated this section to remove outdated information and to reflect the current responsibilities of FTA's headquarters offices. FTA has added the Office of Transit Safety and Oversight and the Office of Regional Services to reflect the creation of those two offices since this section was last

updated in 2005. FTA has also made minor edits for clarity.

601.4 Responsibilities of the Administrator

FTA did not amend this section.

Subpart B—Public Availability of Information

601.10 Sources of Information

Throughout this section, FTA updated the agency's headquarters address for accuracy and made minor edits for clarity. In paragraph (a)(1), FTA also removed the URL for the agency's website because this information need not be codified in the CFR. FTA revised paragraph (b) to update the name, contact information, and services provided by the Department of Transportation Docket Management Facility for accuracy.

Subpart C—Rulemaking Procedures

601.20 Applicability

FTA revised “under an Act” to “by FTA.” This is a minor edit to clarify that the procedures in this section apply to rulemaking actions promulgated by FTA.

601.21 Definitions

FTA is removing and reserving this section, which defined the terms “Act” and “Administrator.” The term “Act” is no longer used in the regulation, given the revision to section 601.20 discussed above. The term “Administrator” is already defined in a parenthetical in section 601.2(a). In addition, the authorities of the FTA Administrator and his or her designees regarding rulemaking are described in FTA's internal delegations of authority procedures. It therefore is unnecessary to define these terms in the regulation.

601.22 General

FTA made a minor clarifying edit in paragraph (b) to revise “subpart” to “part.”

601.23 Initiation of Rulemaking

FTA did not amend this section.

601.24 Contents of Notices of Proposed Rulemaking

FTA did not amend this section.

601.25 Participation by Interested Persons

FTA made a minor clarifying edit to the citation in paragraph (b) for accuracy.

601.26 Petitions for Extension of Time To Comment

FTA did not amend this section.