



Memorandum

**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Notification of Review of
FRA's Oversight of Railroad Slow Orders and
Track Reclassification
Project Number: 03M3007M000

Date: April 15, 2003

From: Debra S. Ritt
Assistant Inspector General
for Transit, Rail Safety, and Maritime Programs

Reply to JA-40
Attn of:

To: Federal Railroad Administrator

The Office of Inspector General plans to begin a review of the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) oversight of railroad slow orders and reclassification of track. Our objective is to evaluate FRA's oversight of railroads' use of slow orders and track reclassification, and to assess the impact on railroad track safety and service schedules. We will begin our review with a survey of the Nation's major railroads, including Amtrak, to identify the availability of detailed records on slow orders, track reclassification, track rehabilitation and maintenance, and service schedules.

We plan to start the review the week of April 28, 2003, and will contact your audit liaison to schedule a formal entrance conference. The Program Director for this assignment is Michael E. Goldstein, and the Project Manager is Jeffrey Ong. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (202) 493-0331 or Michael E. Goldstein at (212) 264-8701.

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cc: FRA Audit Liaison