



U.S. Department of
Transportation
Federal Railroad
Administration

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Task Statement: Remote Control Locomotive Operations

Task No. 14-03

Date initially presented to the RSAC: December 4, 2014

Purpose: To review existing Remote Control Locomotives (RCL) Operations and previous information regarding such operations, and determine whether specific regulations, guidance, or other responsive actions are needed so that appropriate processes and procedures are in place to ensure the safety of RCL operations.

Background: RCL operations have occurred for a number of years and FRA has issued various Safety Advisories, reports, and other guidance documents regarding their use and safe operation. RCL operations were also recently discussed at the emergency RSAC Crew Size Working Group Meeting. At that time, FRA agreed to propose the establishment of a separate RSAC working group to consider the current use of RCL operations and whether updated requirements or guidance are necessary to ensure their continued safety.

Description: Review and understand:

- Review 49 CFR § Parts 217, 218, 229, 240, 242 and 243 in regards to RCL Operations codified into regulations to date.
- Review other Industry or FRA studies and reports (safety advisory) regarding RCL Operations for clarification or review.
- Address other issues identified by the working group.

Issues requiring specific report:

- The Working Group should consider, and specifically report on and, if appropriate, develop draft regulatory or guidance document language on issues presented in the description above.

Establish following working group: Remote Control Locomotive (RCL) Working Group

Target Dates: Report recommendations to the Committee by one year after date of initial Working Group kick-off meeting.

Disposition: Accepted

Date: December 4, 2015 / Amended May 28, 2015