

any planned amendments or modifications to capital improvement and research and development projects for signal and train control operations.

(f) *Track Safety Standards and bridge structures.* Each applicant shall identify the maintenance and inspection programs for track and bridges, and the qualification standards for roadway workers.

(g) *Hazardous Materials.* Each applicant shall identify an inspection program covering the following areas:

- (1) Field inspection practices;
- (2) Hazardous materials communication standards;
- (3) Emergency response procedures; and
- (4) Information technology systems and personnel employed for transmitting or receiving information accompanying hazardous materials shipments. The inspection program should identify preventive measures that will be employed to respond to potential information technology integration and hazardous materials documentation deficiencies.

(h) *Dispatching operations.* Each applicant shall identify:

- (1) The railroad dispatching system to be adopted;
- (2) The migration of the existing dispatching systems to the adopted system, if applicable; and
- (3) The criteria used to determine workload and duties performed by operators or dispatchers employed to execute operations.

(i) *Highway-rail grade crossing systems.* Each applicant shall identify a program, including its development and implementation, covering the following:

- (1) Identification of the highway-rail grade crossings at which there will be an increase in rail traffic resulting from the transaction;
- (2) An applicant's existing grade-crossing programs as they apply to grade crossings identified in paragraph (i)(1) of this section;
- (3) Integration of the grade crossing programs of the railroads subject to the transaction to the extent the programs may be different;
- (4) Emergency response actions;
- (5) Avoidance of blocked or obstructed highway-rail crossing systems

by trains, locomotives, railroad cars, or other pieces of rolling equipment; and

(6) Signs employed for changes in rail traffic patterns.

(j) *Personnel staffing.* Each applicant shall identify the number of employees by job category, currently and proposed, to perform the following types of functions when there is a projected change of operations that will impact workforce duties or responsibilities for employees of that job category:

- (1) Train and engine service;
- (2) Yard and terminal service;
- (3) Dispatching operations;
- (4) Roadway maintenance;
- (5) Freight car and locomotive maintenance;
- (6) Maintenance of signal and train control systems, devices, and appliances;
- (7) Hazardous materials operations; and
- (8) Managers responsible for oversight of safety programs.

(k) *Capital investment.* Each applicant shall identify the capital investment program, clearly displaying planned investments in track and structures, signals and train control, and locomotives and equipment. The program shall describe any differences from the program currently in place on each of the railroads involved in the transaction.

(l) *Information systems compatibility.* Each applicant shall identify measures providing for a seamless interchange of information relating to the following subject matters:

- (1) Train consists;
- (2) Movements and movement history of locomotives and railroad freight cars;
- (3) Dispatching operations;
- (4) Emergency termination of operations; and
- (5) Transportation of hazardous materials.

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§ 244.15 Subjects to be addressed in a Safety Integration Plan not involving an amalgamation of operations.

If an applicant does not propose an amalgamation of operations conducted

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on properties subject to the transaction, the applicant shall not be required to file a Safety Integration Plan unless directed to do so by FRA.

§ 244.17 Procedures.

(a) Each applicant shall file one original of a proposed Safety Integration Plan with the Associate Administrator for Safety, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Mail Stop 25, Washington, DC, 20590, no later than 60 days after the date it files its application with the Surface Transportation Board.

(b) The applicant shall submit such additional information necessary to support its proposed Safety Integration Plan as FRA may require to satisfy the requirements of this part.

(c) The applicant shall coordinate with FRA to resolve FRA's comments on the proposed Safety Integration Plan until such plan is approved.

(d) FRA will file its findings and conclusions on the proposed Safety Integration Plan with the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis at a date sufficiently in advance of the Board's issuance of its draft environmental documentation in the case to permit incorporation in the draft environmental document.

(e) Assuming FRA approves the proposed Safety Integration Plan and the Surface Transportation Board approves the transaction and adopts the Plan, each applicant involved in the transaction shall coordinate with FRA in implementing the approved Safety Integration Plan.

(f) During implementation of an approved Safety Integration Plan, FRA expects that an applicant may change and refine its Safety Integration Plan in response to unforeseen developments. An applicant shall communicate with FRA about such developments and submit amendments to its Safety Integration Plan to FRA for approval.

(g) During implementation of an approved Safety Integration Plan, FRA will inform the Surface Transportation Board about implementation of the plan at times and in a manner designed to aid the Board's exercise of its continuing jurisdiction over the approved transaction in accordance with an

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agreement that FRA and the Board will enter into and execute. Pursuant to such agreement, FRA will consult with the Board at all appropriate stages of implementation, and will advise the Board on the status of the implementation process:

(1) For a period of no more than five years after the Board approves the transaction,

(2) For an oversight period for the transaction established by the Board, or

(3) Until FRA advises the Board in writing that the integration of operations subject to the transaction is complete, whichever is shorter.

(h) *Request for Confidential Treatment.* Each applicant requesting that advanced drafts of the proposed Safety Integration Plan and information in support of the proposed and approved plan that are filed with FRA receive confidential treatment shall comply with the procedures enumerated at 49 CFR 209.11.

§ 244.19 Disposition.

(a) *Standard of review.* FRA reviews an applicant's Safety Integration Plan, and any amendments thereto, to determine whether it provides a reasonable assurance of safety at every step of the transaction. In making this determination, FRA will consider whether the plan:

(1) Is thorough, complete, and clear; and

(2) Describes in adequate detail a logical and workable transition from conditions existing before the transaction to conditions intended to exist after consummation of the transaction.

(b) *Approval of the Safety Integration Plan and Amendments Thereto.* FRA approves a Safety Integration Plan, and any amendments thereto, that meets the standard set forth in paragraph (a) of this section. The approval will be conditioned on an applicant's execution of all of the elements contained in the plan, including any amendments to the plan approved by FRA.

(c) *Amendment.*—(1) *By the applicant.* The applicant may amend its Safety Integration Plan, from time to time, provided it explains the need for the proposed amendment in writing to FRA. Any amendment shall take effect