



Memorandum

To: BLET Advisory Board; All General Chairmen; All State Legislative Board Chairmen
Cc: Thomas A. Pontolillo, Director of Regulatory Affairs; Kathleen N. Policy, Legislative, Political & Regulatory Coordinator
From: John P. Tolman, Vice President and National Legislative Representative
Date: December 17, 2007
Re: Changes to FRA Sanders Regulation

We have discovered a typographical error in the November 15, 2007 Memorandum transmitting FRA's revised rule, which becomes effective today. The purpose of this Memorandum is to correct that error. The following provisions in the new Final Rule are the most noteworthy:

- Prior to departure from an initial terminal, each locomotive, except for MU locomotives, shall be equipped with operative sanders that deposit sand on each rail in front of the first power operated wheel set in the direction of movement or shall be handled in accordance with the requirements contained in Sec. 229.9. *See* § 229.131(a).
- A lead locomotive being used in road service that experiences inoperative sanders after departure from an initial terminal may continue in service until the earliest of the following occurrences: (1) arrival at the next initial terminal; (2) arrival at a location where it is placed in a facility with a sand delivery system; (3) the next periodic inspection under Sec. 229.23; or (4) fourteen calendar days from the date the sanders are first discovered to be inoperative. *See* § 229.131(b)(1).
- A trailing locomotive being used in road service that experiences inoperative sanders after departure from an initial terminal may continue in service until the earliest of the following occurrences: (1) arrival at the next initial terminal; (2) arrival at a location where it is placed in a facility with a sand delivery system; or (3) the next periodic inspection under Sec. 229.23. *See* § 229.131(b)(2).
- A locomotive being used in switching service at a location not equipped with a sand delivery system may continue in service for seven calendar days from the date the sanders are first discovered inoperative or until its next periodic inspection under Sec. 229.23, whichever occurs first. *See* § 229.131(c)(1).
- A locomotive being used in switching service at locations equipped with a sand delivery system shall be handled in accordance with the requirements contained in Sec. 229.9. *See* 229.131(c)(2).