



January 12, 2016

Mr. Robert Lauby
Associate Administrator for Safety
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Lauby:

**Petition by the
International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers
Transportation Division
and
The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen
For Rulemaking Covering Advance Warning Speed Signs**

The International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers - Transportation Division and The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen hereby petitions FRA for rulemaking that mandates uniform warning speed signs in advance of a permanent speed restriction. The signs should be standardized as to dimensions, conspicuousness, and color.

Recently, some railroads have begun removal of these safety indicators, which creates a hazard for operating crews and the public. In the interest of safety it is necessary to warn road crews of an upcoming speed restriction which otherwise might not be readily apparent. Just as it is unreasonable for a motorist to know each speed restriction without a warning, the same is true for railroad crews. Unlike automobile travel, where speeds can be reduced promptly, trains are unable to comply with a speed restriction without prior knowledge.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. Tolman".

John P. Tolman
National Legislative Representative
Brotherhood of Engineers and Trainmen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Risch".

John Risch
National Legislative Director
SMART-Transportation Division