



Maura Healey, Governor  
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor  
Gina Fiandaca, Secretary & CEO  
Jeffrey Gonneville, Interim General Manager



March 8, 2023

Mr. Robert Hanson  
Director, Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities  
Transportation Oversight Division  
One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Mr. Hanson:

In response to the Department of Public Utilities' (DPU) communication on March 7, 2023, regarding an independent review of Red Line track conditions and the MBTA's compliance with the agency safety plan.

As directed by the DPU:

#### Priority 1 (Red Conditions) Reporting

The MBTA has created a corrective action plan that identifies the actions needed and strategy for hazard/risk analysis for prioritizing repair work.

Starting March 9, 2023 the MBTA will provide the DPU with a daily report that details, priority 1 (red conditions) that are listed as open and pending on the Red Line, the corrective actions taken upon the completion of any priority 1 (red conditions) on the Red Line, and any new priority 1 (red conditions) identified by track inspections.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail Insulators

The MBTA has replaced, and repaired 3<sup>rd</sup> rail insulators identified at wall markers AS 593 and AS 597. (See attached pictures)

#### Electrical Access Boxes

The MBTA has created a corrective action plan for unsecured communications and signal control boxes, access panels and pump rooms.

The MBTA has ensured closure and securement of all communications and signals control boxes, access panels and pump rooms between Ashmont and Savin Hills within 24 hours.

#### Headlight Operation

The MBTA has issued *Special Order #23-045 Heavy Rail Vehicle Head Light Rule Change HR 5* this special order amended the HR5 – Care of Train rule. In addition, the MBTA issued a Light Rail rule

reminder for *LR20 – Vehicle Lights – Interior and Exterior*, this rule reminder reminded all Light Rail Personnel of the importance of complying with rule LR20.

On April 21, 2021, MBTA Safety conducted a hazard analysis for the usage of headlights at all times. (See attached Hazard Analysis)

PPE Compliance/ Safety Briefing

The MBTA has created a corrective action plan to mitigate non-compliance with PPE requirements in accordance with MBTA Special Order 22-244, and safety briefings before entering the ROW on March 6, 2023.

The MBTA will continue to provide updates to the DPU on all directive action items.

Please contact me if you have any questions,

Sincerely,

/s/

Ronald Ester  
Chief Safety Officer

cc:

J. Gonneville, MBTA  
E. Stoothoff, MBTA  
D. Lytton, MBTA  
A. Williams, MBTA  
S. Culp, MBTA  
M. Catsos, MBTA  
R. Hanson, DPU  
D. Carvalho, DPU