



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

MAURA T. HEALEY  
GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

REBECCA L. TEPPER  
SECRETARY OF ENERGY  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ONE SOUTH STATION  
BOSTON, MA 02110  
(617) 305-3500

CECILE M. FRASER  
ACTING CHAIR

ROBERT E. HAYDEN  
COMMISSIONER

March 7, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Ronald Ester  
Chief Safety Officer  
MBTA Safety Department  
185 Kneeland Street  
Boston, MA 02111

RE: PPE Compliance/ Safety Briefing **Immediate Action Notice**

Dear Mr. Ester:

On March 6, 2023, a Department of Public Utilities (“DPU”) track engineer and I were present with an instructor and section repair person to conduct an independent review of Red Line track conditions and the MBTA’s compliance with the agency safety plan. DPU walked the Red Line section of track between Ashmont and Savin Hills on the southbound track. As a result of this inspection, the current version of the MBTA rule book and special orders the DPU identified a condition that requires an immediate corrective action.

On February 1, 2022, MBTA issued a memorandum with a new Personal Protective Equipment (“PPE”) rule requiring that any employees accessing the right of way (“ROW”) must be in compliance with the PPE rule.

Therefore, the DPU directs the MBTA Safety Department to create a corrective action plan in accordance with 20 CMR 151.07 resolving the following items:

1. MBTA Safety Department will provide the DPU with a written explanation as to why the instructor did not have the proper PPE in accordance with MBTA PPE policy dated 2-1-22.

2. MBTA will provide Department of Public Utilities with the safety briefing form (unedited) from the DPU access on 3-6-23.
3. MBTA will review the safety briefing form from 3-6-23 and provide DPU with a written review of any deficiencies identified within the safety briefing form.

MBTA will provide a response to this within 72 hours.

Please contact me if you have any questions,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert N. Hanson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "H".

Robert N. Hanson  
Director Rail Transit Safety

cc:

J. Gonneville, MBTA  
E. Stoothoff, MBTA  
R. Ester, MBTA  
S. Culp, MBTA  
P. Roman, DPU  
D Carvalho, DPU