

Email Correspondence

regarding NYCDOT Safety Improvements

July 9, 2004

Four (4) pages total including this cover

Ford Robert

From: Turrell Morgan
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2004 3:00 PM
To: Ford Robert; Strauch Barry; Cox Charlotte; Jones Rob; Curtis Brian
Subject: FW: Accomplishments since 10/15/03

-----Original Message-----

From: McDermott, Sean [mailto:smcdermott@dot.nyc.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2004 12:04 PM
To: Turrell Morgan
Cc: Curtis Brian; DeSimone, James; Damashek, Philip
Subject: RE: Accomplishments since 10/15/03

Morgan,

Please find attached the response to your questions from your e-mail dated 30June04. If you need additional information please give me a call and I'll assist in any way I can.

Regards,
Sean McDermott

-----Original Message-----

From: Turrell Morgan [mailto:morgan.turrell@ntsb.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2004 1:14 PM
To: McDermott, Sean
Cc: Jones Rob; Curtis Brian; Murtagh Marjorie; Ford Robert; Strauch Barry
Subject: Accomplishments since 10/15/03

Sean,

As we discussed today by telephone, we are making progress with our investigation and would like you to update us on any safety improvements NYCDOT has made to the fleet and its operation since the Staten Island Ferry accident. Specifically:

1. Please identify all planned improvements identified for change and when you expect to complete them;
2. All improvements implemented already including but not limited to new equipment, procedures, training, scheduling, personnel, radios, uniforms, medical response capabilities, etc.
3. What are the current bridge manning and operational procedures?

Thank you again for your assistance with our investigation.

Morgan J. Turrell
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Marine Safety
202-314-6107

08/11/2004

July 9, 2004

Morgan J. Turrell
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Marine Safety
490 L'Enfant Plaza East, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20594-2000

Re: Staten Island Ferry

Dear Mr. Turrell:

As a follow-up to your e-mail of June 30, 2004, in which you have asked for information regarding the current and future operation of the Staten Island Ferry, please see below:

1. Please identify all planned improvements identified for change and when you expect to complete them:

There are a number of planned improvements, most of which revolve around the establishment of a Safety Management System. This process may take as long as two (2) years to develop and implement. Improvements include policies and procedures which will address all aspects of vessel operations, safety and emergency response and maintenance. This will ensure the safest and most efficient operation possible.

2. All improvements implemented already including but not limited to new equipment, procedures, training, scheduling, personnel, radios, uniforms, medical response capabilities, etc.

New equipment includes GPS navigation, ARPA collision avoidance, and automated passenger announcement systems. Procedures have been promulgated that designate specifically where all crew members are to be stationed and what their respective responsibilities are, both while underway and secured in the slips. Training programs have been established for all new hires and for current captains on the new ARPA and GPS units. In general scheduling is still under review; however, rest periods have now been established for deckhands; radios and uniforms have been issued to all above-decks crew members and medical response capabilities are still under review.

3. What are the current bridge manning and operational procedures?

Bridge manning includes a master with first class pilotage, a first class pilot and a deckhand. Procedures have been established for (i) when and where these personnel are stationed, both while underway and secured in the slips; (ii) how navigational equipment is to be operated; and (iii) when and where crewmembers are to be called to stations for docking and when and where various informational announcements are to be made.

Very truly yours,

Sean McDermott,
Chief Engineer