From: David Casaceli
To: Kilgore, Kenton (FRA); FRA[redacted]
Cc: Ruben Payan; Baker, Daniel (FRA); [redacted]@dot.gov; Alexy, Karl (FRA)
Subject: RE: Response to questions regarding the contractor fatality at great Barrington, MA
Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:19:00 AM

NTSB Accident RRD23FR015

FRA Team,

I do have an additional follow-up request. The NTSB is attempting to quantify the number of railroad contractor employees in the industry. We have learned that Part 219 - CONTROL OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE requires the submission to FRA of (1) testing plans for certain contractors and (2) annual reports to FRA by a certain subset of those contractors.

1. NTSB requests that FRA provide data on the number of testing plans submitted to FRA by railroad contractors. If the data are not easily filtered by contractor employers, and the total number of plans received and an estimate of how many are contractor employers is readily available, that will be sufficient.
2. NTSB requests data on the number of employees working for those contractors that are required to submit annual reports to FRA. If the data can be readily broken down by covered employees, MOW employees, and MECH employees, please do so.

NTSB is aware that the requested data will not provide an exact count of all railroad contractor employees, but we believe it will help provide an order of magnitude of the number of these employees in the industry and that will meet our needs at this time.

After reviewing this request, please let us know when we can reasonably expect a response.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have or to discuss alternative manners which may more easily help us quantify the number of railroad contractor employees in the industry.

David F Casaceli PE

Railroad Accident Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board