



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Transit  
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

May 15, 2024

James M. (Jamie) Van Nostrand  
Chair  
Department of Public Utilities  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
One South Station  
Boston, MA 02110

**Subject: Closure of FTA-DPU-23-007 (Oversight of Corrective Action Plan Development)**

Dear Mr. Van Nostrand:

On July 21, 2023, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) transferring the remaining open findings from FTA's 2019 State Safety Oversight (SSO) triennial audit to Special Directive 22-8.

DPU developed a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address the following finding and required action:

- **Finding:** DPU did not ensure that MBTA developed CAPs as required from hazards or investigation reports.
- **Required Action:** DPU must submit and implement a process that ensures that all required CAPs are submitted, reviewed, approved, and tracked.

DPU's CAP contained two action items and was approved by FTA on October 20, 2023.

To implement this CAP, DPU undertook the following action (and submitted documentation regarding their completion):

- Updated its Program Standard Operations Guide to reflect its process to ensure MBTA develops and implements CAPs as required.
- Provided the form used to review CAPs for sufficiency.
- Provided evidence of DPU's work to oversee MBTA's CAP process, including example reports.

**Closeout Approval for FTA-DPU-23-007 (Oversight of Corrective Action Plan Development)**

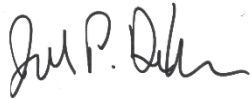
FTA carefully evaluated the submitted documentation. FTA's review focused on:

- The Program Standard Operations Guide language requiring MBTA to develop and implement CAPs as required.
- The demonstration of DPU actions to ensure MBTA develops and implements CAPs as required.

FTA's review of DPU activities focused exclusively on improvements required under Special Directive 22-8. As part of its separate, routine SSO triennial audit process, in calendar year 2024 FTA will assess DPU's overall execution of an SSO program in compliance with 49 CFR part 674, State Safety Oversight, including a broader review of DPU's actions to oversee safety at the MBTA.

FTA greatly appreciates your efforts. Please contact our Special Directive 22-8 Program Lead, Francis Alomia by phone at (470) 859-1677 or by email at [Francis.Alomia@dot.gov](mailto:Francis.Alomia@dot.gov) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Joe DeLorenzo  
Associate Administrator and  
Chief Safety Officer  
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight

cc: Peter Butler, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 1  
Staci Rubin, Commissioner, DPU  
Robert Hanson, Rail Safety Director, DPU