U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

FEB 10 2016

(b) (6)
Senior Vice President, Engineering, Mechanical, and Purchasing
Florida East Coast Railway
7150 Philips Highway
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Dear (b) (6) :

This reply is in response to Florida East Coast Railway's (FEC) February 5, 2016, email request to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to amend certain provisions of FRA's December 18, 2015, letter of concurrence on the Commissioning Phase (Phase 1) of FEC's liquefied natural gas- (LNG) fueled locomotive project. FEC requested the following amendments to the conditions outlined by FRA:

1. Revision of Condition 1 to allow FEC to complete Phase 1 tests no later than February 14, 2016.

2. Concurrence to run two LNG locomotives and an LNG tender (together referred to as the "Consist"), in non-revenue service, from FEC's Bowden Yard in Jacksonville, FL, to FEC's yard in New Smyrna Beach, FL, and back.

FEC indicates that in order to evaluate the performance of the equipment under conditions similar to expected real-world operating conditions, the Consist will pull 10 to 20 cars of ballast (FEC company material). This load is necessary to ensure the engines are tested and operated using LNG as the sole fuel source, as well as using both LNG and diesel fuel.

FEC indicates this request is necessary to demonstrate the operation of LNG equipment to the FRA staff visiting FEC's Bowden facilities for field evaluations during the week of February 8, 2016.

After careful review, FRA concurs with FEC's request to amend Condition 1 of FRA's December 18, 2015, letter to allow the completion of Phase 1 testing no later than February 14, 2016. FRA also concurs with FEC's proposal to operate the Consist and cars of ballast from FEC's Bowden Yard to FEC's New Smyrna Beach Yard and back. Movement of the Consist from Bowden to New Smyrna Beach will provide an opportunity for FRA staff to ride the Consist and observe the equipment's performance under typical operating conditions.