December 29, 2020

Mr. Eric Lucan
Chair, Board of Directors
Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit
5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200
Petaluma, CA 94954

Ms. Barbara Pahre
Vice Chair, Board of Directors
Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit
5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200
Petaluma, CA 94954

Mr. Farhad Mansourian
General Manager
Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit
5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200
Petaluma, CA 94954

Mr. Aaron Parkes
Manager, Train Control Systems
Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit
5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200
Petaluma, CA 94954

Dear Ms. Pahre and Messrs. Lucan, Mansourian, and Parkes:

Since becoming Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) in February 2018, one of my highest priorities has been to help ensure that the railroad industry fully implements positive train control (PTC) systems on all required main lines by December 31, 2020, in accordance with the statutory mandate and FRA’s regulations.

On behalf of FRA and myself, I want to recognize Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit’s significant accomplishment of fully implementing an FRA-certified and interoperable PTC system on its PTC-mandated main lines before the statutory deadline of December 31, 2020. Congratulations to you and your entire team!

Together, you and the railroad industry implemented PTC technology on over 57,500 route miles throughout the country. This achievement encompasses over a decade of sustained commitment, thousands of hours of testing and deployment, innovative technological solutions, along with a tremendous amount of coordination and collaboration among nearly 100 host and tenant railroads, railroad associations, material suppliers, and service providers. Thank you for your perseverance. FRA looks forward to overseeing the further advancements to rail safety that PTC technology will enable.

Best wishes for a safe and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Batory
Administrator