

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
Olympia, WA, 98504-7250

January 20, 2003

Nancy Delacour  
2818 NW 69<sup>th</sup> St.  
Seattle WA. 98117

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STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

Dear WUTC Representative:

I have worked as a locomotive engineer for over twenty two years, and for the BN and BNSF for twenty five. I am extremely concerned about the recent remote control implementation in our state. I do not believe that the railroad has safely regulated their use, and the FRA has not addressed any kind of enforceable regulation. I am concerned about our safety on the job, as well as that of the general public. I am particularly concerned about the use of remote control engines in high traffic and highly populated areas, which is happening here in Seattle. There are plans to use remote control for all terminal operations as soon as they obtain enough remote control units. BNSF plans to purchase 200 more this year.

I urge you to codify federal notice of safety advisory 2001-01 into state regulations. We need to have some kind of regulation or the railroads will continue unchecked, deciding what is in their best interests, motivated by profitability, not public safety.

Sincerely,



Nancy Delacour