



DATE: June 10, 2011
TO: Section 209 States
FROM: David Kutrosky, Chair, AASHTO-SCORT State Working Group
Stephen Gardner, VP Policy & Development, Amtrak

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The top signature is "David Kutrosky" and the bottom signature is "Stephen Gardner".

On Behalf of Amtrak Section 209 Team and Section 209 State Working Group

SUBJECT: Transmission of DRAFT Section 209 Policy Package

Attached please find the draft Section 209 (S209) Policy and supporting documents as developed by Amtrak and the State Working Group (SWG). This draft Policy represents months of collaborative discussions between the Amtrak S209 Team and the SWG, on behalf of the states. We collectively feel that the result is a fair, equitable policy which allows States and Amtrak to partner productively and efficiently in the operation of intercity passenger rail service.

This transmittal consists of the following documents:

- **S209 Policy Document** which outlines the specific components of the draft Policy
- **S209 Issue Brief** which provides background and history regarding the development of the Policy
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** to assist States with understanding the implications of the cost methodology Policy
- **Operating Cost Workbook** which provides a preliminary route-specific illustration of how the S209 operating cost methodology will be applied.
- **Capital Charge Workbook** which provides a preliminary route-specific illustration of how the S209 capital charge methodology will be applied.
- **Survey/Response Form** for each State to complete and return to the SWG by June 24, 2011.

The purpose of these documents to assist you understanding the methodology used to develop the S209 Policy, which allows Amtrak and the States to “develop and implement a single, nationwide standardized methodology for establishing and allocating the operating and capital costs among the States and Amtrak” related to trains that operate on corridors of 750 miles or less in the Amtrak national network. The intent of Section 209 is to ensure that Amtrak treats all states equally and to allocate to each route a proportionate set of costs that reflect the routes’ relative use.

Please note that the Policy document is in draft form. This information is being provided to you so that States have the opportunity to review, ask questions and make suggestions regarding the Policy before it is finalized. We ask that you submit your completed Survey/Comment sheet (attached) to patricia@nnepra.com by Friday, June 24, 2011 at 5pm (ET).

It is important to note that the costs and charges in the attached workbooks are preliminary and are intended to provide an estimate of costs for each route using the methodology in the S209 Policy. What you are asked to comment on at this time is the manner in which those costs will be calculated, not the actual numbers.

The SWG will host a **states-only conference call on Wednesday, June 15, 2011** at 2:30pm (ET) to review the documents presented and answers any questions you may have regarding the policy or any of the documents. The call-in number is 866-299-7945, access code: 1175624.

During the 2-week review period, you are encouraged to contact any of the Amtrak SWG team members with any detailed questions. Their contact info is provided below:

Amtrak S209 Team

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Once comments are received on or before June 24, 2011, the SWG and Amtrak will prepare the final S209 Policy for approval by the Amtrak Board of Directors. The Final Policy will then be transmitted to States in July 2011 for approval.

Thank you for your attention to this important and complex Policy matter.