SECTION 01141A – SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF RAILROAD TRAFFIC AND PROPERTY

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

A. This specification describes the safety procedures and protection provisions for Contractors and Permittees entering and working upon railroad property.

B. Use of this specification is as required by Amtrak, as described in Amtrak Engineering Practice EP3014.

1.2 RELATED DOCUMENTS

A. Drawings and general provisions of the Contract, including General and Supplementary Conditions and other Division 1 Specification Sections, apply to this Section.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

A. CHIEF ENGINEER: Amtrak Chief Engineer

B. RAILROAD: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), and/or the duly authorized representative

C. ENGINEERING PRACTICE: Amtrak Engineering Practices establish a system of uniform practices, notices and instructions for the Amtrak Engineering Department, providing current, permanent and temporary, departmental procedures and policies.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS (Not Used)

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 PRE-ENTRY MEETING

A. Before entry of Permittee and/or Contractors onto Railroad's property, a pre-entry meeting shall be held at which time Permittee and/or Contractors shall submit for written approval of the Chief Engineer, plans, computations and a detailed description of proposed methods for accomplishing the work, including methods for protecting Railroad's traffic. Any such written approval shall not relieve Permittee and/or Contractor of their complete responsibility for the adequacy and safety of their operations.
3.2 RULES, REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Railroad traffic shall be maintained at all times with safety and continuity, and Permittee and/or Contractors shall conduct their operations in compliance with all rules, regulations, and requirements of Railroad (including these Specifications) with respect to any work performed on, over, under, within or adjacent to Railroad’s property. Permittee and/or Contractors shall be responsible for acquainting themselves with such rules, regulations and requirements. Any violation of Railroads safety rules, regulations, or requirements shall be grounds for the immediate suspension of the Permittee and/or Contractor work, and the re-training of all personnel, at the Permittee’s expense.

3.3 MAINTENANCE OF SAFE CONDITIONS

A. If tracks or other property of Railroad are endangered during the work, Permittee and/or Contractor shall immediately take such steps as may be directed by Railroad to restore safe conditions, and upon failure of Permittee and/or Contractor to immediately carry out such direction, Railroad may take whatever steps are reasonably necessary to restore safe conditions. All costs and expenses of restoring safe conditions, and of repairing any damage to Railroad’s trains, tracks, right-of-way or other property caused by the operations of Permittee and/or Contractors, shall be paid by Permittee.

3.4 PROTECTION IN GENERAL

A. Permittee and/or Contractors shall consult with the Chief Engineer to determine the type and extent of protection required to insure safety and continuity of railroad traffic. Any Inspectors, Track Foremen, Track Watchmen, Flagman, Signalmen, Electric Traction Linemen, or other employees deemed necessary by Railroad, at its sole discretion, for protective services shall be obtained from Railroad by Permittee and/or Contractors. The cost of same shall be paid directly to Railroad by Permittee. The provision of such employees by Railroad, and any other precautionary measures taken by Railroad, shall not relieve Permittee and/or Contractors from their complete responsibility for the adequacy and safety of their operations.

3.5 PROTECTION FOR WORK NEAR ELECTRIFIED TRACK OR WIRE

A. Whenever work is performed in the vicinity of electrified tracks and/or high voltage wires, particular care must be exercised, and Railroad’s requirements regarding clearance to be maintained between equipment and tracks and/or energized wires, and otherwise regarding work in the vicinity of electrified tracks, must be strictly observed. No employees or equipment will be permitted to work near overhead wires, except when protected by a Class A employee of Railroad. Permittee and/or Contractors must supply an adequate length of grounding cable (4/0 copper with approved clamps) for each piece of equipment working near or adjacent to any overhead wire.

3.6 FOULING OF TRACK OR WIRE

A. No work will be permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of the centerline of track or the energized wire or have potential of getting within twenty-five (25) feet of track wire without the
approval of the Chief Engineer’s representative. Permittee and/or Contractors shall conduct their work so that no part of any equipment or material shall foul an active track or overhead wire without the written permission of the Chief Engineer’s representative. When Permittee and/or Contractors desire to foul an active track, they must provide the Chief Engineer’s representative with their site-specific work plan a minimum of twenty-one (21) working days in advance, so that, if approved, arrangements may be made for proper protection of Railroad. Any equipment shall be considered to be fouling a track or overhead wire when located (a) within fifteen (15) feet from the centerline of the track or within fifteen (15) feet from the wire, or (b) in such a position that failure of same, with or without a load, would bring it within fifteen (15) feet from the centerline of the track or within fifteen (15) feet from the wire and requires the presence of the proper Railroad protection personnel.

B. If acceptable to the Chief Engineer’s representative, a safety barrier (approved temporary fence or barricade) may be installed at fifteen (15) feet from centerline of track or overhead wire to afford the Permittee and/or Contractor with a work area that is not considered fouling. Nevertheless, protection personnel may be required at the discretion of the Chief Engineer’s representative.

3.7 TRACK OUTAGES

A. Permittee and/or Contractors shall verify the time and schedule of track outages from Railroad before scheduling any of their work on, over, under, within, or adjacent to Railroad’s right-of-way. Railroad does not guarantee the availability of any track outage at any particular time. Permittee and/or Contractors shall schedule all work to be performed in such a manner as not to interfere with Railroad operations. Permittee and/or Contractors shall use all necessary care and precaution to avoid accidents, delay or interference with Railroad’s trains or other property.

3.8 DEMOLITION

A. During any demolition, the Contractor must provide horizontal and vertical shields, designed by a Professional Engineer registered in the state in which the work takes place. These shields shall be designed in accordance with the Railroad's specifications and approved by the Railroad, so as to prevent any debris from falling onto the Railroad's right-of-way or other property. A grounded temporary vertical protective barrier must be provided if an existing vertical protective barrier is removed during demolition. In addition, if any openings are left in an existing bridge deck, a protective fence must be erected at both ends of the bridge to prohibit unauthorized persons from entering onto the bridge.

B. Ballasted track structure shall be kept free of all construction and demolition debris. Geotextiles or canvas shall be placed over the track ties and ballast to keep the ballast clean.

3.9 EQUIPMENT CONDITION

A. All equipment to be used in the vicinity of operating tracks shall be in “certified” first-class condition so as to prevent failures that might cause delay to trains or damage to Railroad’s property. No equipment shall be placed or put into operation near or adjacent to operating tracks without first obtaining permission from the Chief Engineer’s representative. Under no
circumstances shall any equipment or materials be placed or stored within twenty-five (25) feet from the centerline of an outside track, except as approved by the Site Specific Safety Work Plan. To insure compliance with this requirement, Permittee and/or Contractors must establish a twenty-five (25) foot foul line prior to the start of work by either driving stakes, taping off or erecting a temporary fence, or providing an alternate method as approved by the Chief Engineer’s representative. Permittee and/or Contractors will be issued warning stickers which must be placed in the operating cabs of all equipment as a constant reminder of the twenty-five (25) foot clearance envelope.

3.10 STORAGE OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

A. No material or equipment shall be stored on Railroad’s property without first having obtained permission from the Chief Engineer. Any such storage will be on the condition that Railroad will not be liable for loss of or damage to such materials or equipment from any cause.

B. If permission is granted for the storage of compressed gas cylinders on Railroad property, they shall be stored a minimum of 25 feet from the nearest track in an approved lockable enclosure. The enclosure shall be locked when the Permittee and/or Contractor is not on the project site.

3.11 CONDITION OF RAILROAD’S PROPERTY

A. Permittee and/or Contractors shall keep Railroad’s property clear of all refuse and debris from its operations. Upon completion of the work, Permittee and/or Contractors shall remove from Railroad’s property all machinery, equipment, surplus materials, falsework, rubbish, temporary structures, and other property of the Permittee and/or Contractors and shall leave Railroad’s property in a condition satisfactory to the Chief Engineer.

3.12 SAFETY TRAINING

A. All individuals, including representatives and employees of Permittee and/or Contractor, before entering onto Railroad’s property and before coming within twenty-five (25) feet of the centerline of the track or energized wire must first attend Railroad’s Contractor Orientation Computer Based Training Class. The Contractor Orientation Class will be provided electronically at www.amtrakcontractor.com. Upon successful completion of the course and test, the individual taking the course will receive a temporary certificate without a photo that is valid for three weeks. The individual must upload a photo of himself/herself that will be embedded in the permanent ID card. The photo ID will be mailed to the individual’s home address and must be worn/displayed while on Railroad property. Training is valid for one calendar year. All costs of complying with Railroad’s safety training shall be at the sole expense of Permittee and/or Contractor. The Permittee and/or Contractor shall appoint a qualified person as its Safety Representative. The Safety Representative shall continuously ensure that all individuals comply with Railroad’s safety requirements. All safety training records must be maintained with the Permittee’s and/or Contractor’s site specific work plan.
3.13 NO CHARGES TO RAILROAD

A. It is expressly understood that neither these Specifications, nor any document to which they are attached, include any work for which Railroad is to be billed by Permittee and/or Contractors, unless Railroad gives a written request that such work be performed at Railroad's expense.

END OF SECTION 01141A