




Memorandum

To: Jeff Martin, Chief Logistics Officer
Bruce R. Pohlot, Chief Engineer

From: 
Calvin E. Evans, Assistant Inspector General, Inspections and Evaluations

Date: May 2, 2013

Subject: Engagement Memo—Evaluation of Amtrak’s Acquisition of Concrete Tie Replacements (Project 011-2013)

The Office of Inspector General is initiating an evaluation of Amtrak’s acquisition of concrete ties to replace defective ties installed on areas of track in New England, using funds provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Specifically, we will determine the extent of Amtrak’s oversight of the production of the replacement ties. To accomplish this objective, we plan to review Amtrak’s procurement policies, procedures, practices, and contract documents. We will also interview the key Amtrak officials involved in acquiring, overseeing, and accepting the replacement ties at various Amtrak locations, and we may interview officials from the company that manufactured the ties. We are aware that Amtrak is actively engaged in installing concrete ties and will keep you apprised of our findings as we progress.

We plan to initiate this work immediately, and will coordinate an entrance conference through Amtrak’s audit liaison. The evaluation objective may be modified during the course of our work, and we will keep you informed of any material changes in this regard. This evaluation will be conducted in accordance with our statutory responsibilities contained in the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

Jason Venner, Larry Chisley, and Timothy Wells of my staff will conduct the evaluation. Please contact me at [Calvin.Evans@amtrakoig.gov/\(202\) 906-4507](mailto:Calvin.Evans@amtrakoig.gov/(202)906-4507) or Jason Venner, Sr. Director, at [Jason.Venner@amtrakoig.gov/\(202\) 906-4406](mailto:Jason.Venner@amtrakoig.gov/(202)906-4406) if you have any questions. Your cooperation is appreciated.

cc: Joseph H. Boardman, President and Chief Executive Officer
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