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FRA Announcement Earns Praise From Think Tank

Washington, D.C. The Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) recent Mount Carbon Accident Findings Report, and subsequent recognition of the need to improve railroad inspection policies comes at a pivotal time for the nation's rail infrastructure system.

Faced with numerous derailments and other train incidents, the need for better track maintenance and inspection is evident. Maintaining the integrity of the rail network begins with addressing the primary cause of derailments - rail, track, and roadbed deficiencies, which accounted for 42 percent of all derailments over the past five years.

The Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure (Aii) commends FRA Administrator Sarah Feinberg on recognizing rail and track integrity as a leading factor in train derailments, and hopes any upcoming rail safety initiatives continues to focus on these issues.

A proactive approach to safety means regulators and rail operators will no longer simply respond to each incident, but rather, take pre-emptive measures to avoid these incidents in the first place.

The Alliance recently released a report discussing how innovative rail safety technologies along with best practices for operators, inspectors, and engineers can positively impact rail safety by focusing on the root causes of derailments – rail, track and roadbed integrity, and human error.

Aii supports FRA's initiative to address the seemingly perpetual issue of faulty infrastructure riddled across the nation's rail network. We look forward to the upcoming safety advisory and hope that it sufficiently addresses these issues.

The Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure (Aii) is a U.S.-based nonprofit committed to recognizing the nation's need for improved infrastructure and highlighting innovative and effective strategies to address these issues related to energy, transportation, and technology advancements.

Contact:
Ashley VanBuskirk
Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure
(202) 808-0591
avanbuskirk@aiiwire.org

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