

Colorado

Public Utilities Commission

For Your Information



TR-1

PUC OVERSIGHT OF RTD LIGHT RAIL

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has safety oversight over the Regional Transportation District's (RTD) light rail system in two areas.

- **Public Highway-Rail Crossings.** The PUC has primary jurisdiction over all public highway-rail crossings, including the opening, closing or upgrading of crossings. Both at-grade and separated-grade crossings are subject to PUC jurisdiction.
- **System Safety and Security.** In 1997, the Colorado Legislature designated the PUC as the safety oversight agency for rail fixed guideway systems within Colorado, which includes RTD's light rail system. The PUC is responsible for enforcing federal safety standards, and for ensuring the development by RTD of a system safety plan and a system security plan. The PUC's safety oversight activities are intended to supplement those of RTD and provide an added degree of confidence that the safety and security policies and procedures described in the system safety plan and system security plan are being successfully carried out.

The objective of all PUC rail safety regulations is to ensure that rail fixed guideway operators under PUC jurisdiction operate and maintain their lines, systems, equipment, tracks and premises in a manner which promotes and safeguards the health and safety of their employees, passengers, customers and the public.

For more information, contact the PUC Rail Safety Unit at 303-894-2529 or 303-894-2849.

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