




Memorandum

To: Mark Yachmetz, Chief, Corporate Research and Strategy

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

Date: October 31, 2013

Subject: Engagement Memo—Evaluation of Amtrak’s Business Case for New High-Speed Trainsets (Project 002-2014)

The Office of Inspector General is initiating an evaluation of the company’s business case for procuring next-generation high-speed rail trainsets. Specifically, we will determine the extent to which Amtrak is incorporating the sound business practices that we previously reported on in OIG reports E-2013-014 and E-2013-020 in developing its business case for high-speed rail equipment. To accomplish this objective, we will interview various Amtrak officials and review supporting documents used to develop the business case.

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 under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

Jason Venner, Joshua Moses, and Robert Dyer of my staff will conduct the evaluation. If you have any questions, please contact me at Calvin.Evans@amtrakoig.gov/202-906-4507 or Jason Venner, Sr. Director, at Jason.Venner@amtrakoig.gov/202-906-4406. Thank you for your cooperation.

cc: Joseph H. Boardman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Dan M. Black, Acting Chief Financial Officer
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