Rail Safety in Nevada

By Mahin Quintero
Rail Safety Supervisor

Though not as extensive as other areas of the country, Nevada has an active railroad industry with nearly 2,000 miles of track that allows for the movement of people and goods around the state and the country.

Most people feel safe when traveling via Amtrak or driving over railroad tracks; this is due to the robust relationship between the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada’s (PUCN) Rail Safety Division and the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Created in 1970 under the Federal Rail Safety Act, this partnership provides a mechanism for states to have a continuing role in rail safety regulation following the federal preemption of independent state regulation.

Nevada’s four inspectors, who specialize in the safety inspections of track, hazmat tankers and shippers, operating practices of railroads, and the mechanical components of rolling stock, are trained and certified by the FRA. PUCN and FRA inspectors coordinate efforts regarding the activities, information, data, and inspections in Nevada to ensure that Nevada’s railway system is operating in a safe and reliable manner.

As part of this relationship between Nevada and the FRA, the PUCN’s Rail Safety Supervisor is required to attend annual meetings to learn of future railroad safety concerns, discuss current railroad events, and to provide a platform for state managers and FRA personnel to talk freely and frankly about the administrative side of the relationship.

Source: Nevada DOT 2012 State Rail Map, nevadadot.com/home/showdocument?id=3700

Continued on page 3
Your first line of defense against fraud is education! Mark your calendars for this one-day event to learn about steps you can take to avoid becoming a victim or speak with agencies that can help if you have already been victimized.

**RESOURCE FAIR EXHIBITORS**
- AARP Nevada
- Clark County Recorder
- Dress for Success
- Federal Trade Commission
- IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service
- Nevada ADOI, Medicare’s Extra Help
- Nevada Consumer Affairs
- Nevada Division of Mortgage Lending
- Nevada Division of Insurance
- Nevada Financial Institutions
- Nevada DMV
- Nevada Welfare Fraud Investigations
- Office of the Attorney General
- Office of the Labor Commissioner
- Office of Secretary of State
- Public Utilities Commission of NV
- Senior Medicare Patrol & SHIP
- U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission
- Women of Global Change

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020**
Nevada State Business Center—3300 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas

11 am – 3 pm: Resource Fair Booths Open, FREE Income Tax Preparation Services
11:30 am: Fraud Prevention Panel Featuring:
- Cris Williams, Chief Compliance Investigator
  Nevada Consumer Affairs
- Michael Gomez, Detective
  Las Vegas Metro Police Department
- John Kirk, Assistant Special Agent
  Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration
1:00 pm: Fraud Prevention Panel Featuring:
- Dawn Rivard, Consumer Outreach Director
  Public Utilities Commission
- Sheri Ann Forbes, Senior Deputy Attorney General
  Office of the Attorney General
- Annie Walters, Public Affairs Specialist
  Social Security Administration

**MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020**
Tamarack Junction Casino—13101 S. Virginia Street, Reno

11 am – 3 pm: Resource Fair Booths Open
11:30 am: Fraud Prevention Panel Featuring:
- Cris Williams, Chief Compliance Investigator
  Nevada Consumer Affairs
- Timothy Johnston, VP of Outreach
  BBB Serving Northern NV and Utah
- Nicolas Coates, Attorney
  Federal Trade Commission
- John Kirk, Assistant Special Agent
  Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration
- Michelle Newman and Whitney Digesti
  Office of the Attorney General

*Provided by Nevada Free Tax Coalition. What to bring: 1) Original Social Security Card, 2) Government Issued ID, 3) All Income + deductible expense documents. What to know: Volunteer preparers are IRS certified, NO COST to you, annual income must be less than $59K.

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Railroad: continued from page 1

The 2019 meeting with the FRA and 32 participating state managers, which is also known as the Association of State Rail Safety Managers (ASRSM), was held in Seattle, Washington, the week of October 21.

Led by the FRA’s State Participation Program Director, Mel Strong, the three-day conference began with presentations from each state. State managers shared information on their states’ most pressing rail safety concerns, current workforce, and regulation changes.

One of the most pressing concerns discussed at this year’s conference was the two-crew rule (requiring trains to be staffed by at least two railroad employees) enacted by several states, Nevada included. However, the FRA has preempted states from enforcing the two-crew rule, which has led to ongoing litigation between the FRA and affected states. The PUCN’s General Counsel is participating in litigation regarding this matter; General Counsel and the Rail Safety Division continue to monitor this issue closely.

**Freight Railroads in United States**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freight Railroads in Nevada</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BNSF Railway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union Pacific Railroad</td>
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**Short & Private Rail Lines in Nevada**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nevada Northern Railway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia &amp; Truckee Railroad</td>
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<td>Nevada State Railroad Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nevada Southern Railroad</td>
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**Dockets Opened at the PUCN in January 2020**

Visit puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/ to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

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<tr>
<th>Docket No.</th>
<th>Date Filed</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>20-01001</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Reports from public utilities operating in Nevada of accidents or significant service outages occurring during calendar year 2020 pursuant to</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>NRS 704.190 and NAC 704.230.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01002</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Annual Reports for calendar year 2019 submitted by Electric, Natural Gas, LPG, Geothermal, Alternative Sellers, and Railroad companies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>operating in Nevada pursuant to NRS 703.191 and NAC 704.225.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01003</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Annual Reports for calendar year 2019 submitted by Water and Wastewater companies operating in Nevada pursuant to NRS 703.191, NAC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>703.199, and NAC 704.225.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01004</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Annual Reports for calendar year 2019 submitted by Mobile Home Parks operating in Nevada pursuant to NRS 704.960 and NAC 704.987.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01005</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Annual Reports for calendar year 2019 submitted by Telecommunication companies operating in Nevada pursuant to NRS 703.191 and NAC</td>
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<td>704.7483.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01006</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>One Call Enforcement Actions and Inspection Reports by the Regulatory Operations Staff pursuant to NRS 455 for calendar year 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01007</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Pipeline Safety Enforcement Actions and Inspection Reports by the Regulatory Operations Staff pursuant to 49 CFR 191 and 192 for</td>
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<td>calendar year 2020.</td>
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### Dockets: continued from page 3

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-01008</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Rail Safety FRA Form 96 Inspection Reports for calendar year 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01009</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Reports from electric and gas utilities operating in Nevada of transactions and calculations affecting the deferred energy accounts pursuant to NAC 704.195 for calendar year 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01010</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Applications for calendar year 2020 received by a utility under the Solar Energy Systems Incentive Program.</td>
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<td>20-01011</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Filings by Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of its monthly financial statements and quarterly calculations of its earned rate(s) of return and returns on equity for the Nevada jurisdiction pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 13-07021.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01012</td>
<td>01/02/2020</td>
<td>Filing by Assist Wireless, LLC to update information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01013</td>
<td>01/06/2020</td>
<td>Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Landscape Specialties Inc d/b/a LSI (&quot;LSI&quot;) requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by LSI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01014</td>
<td>01/10/2020</td>
<td>Application of Deluxe Mobile Home Park to withdraw $14,982.35 from the tenant service charge account for reimbursement of expenses incurred to upgrade the electric distribution system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01015</td>
<td>01/09/2020</td>
<td>Application of Tolos Mobile Home Park to withdraw $22,036.50 from the tenant service charge account for reimbursement of expenses incurred to upgrade the electric distribution system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01016</td>
<td>01/07/2020</td>
<td>Salvatore Veltre Jr. vs. Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy (&quot;NV Energy&quot;). Compliant regarding customer being denied electric service provided by NV Energy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01017</td>
<td>01/08/2020</td>
<td>Notice by Lingo Telecom of the West, LLC, Lingo Communications, LLC, Matrix Telecom, LLC d/b/a Clear Choice Communications, Excel Telecommunications, and VarTec Telecom, and Garrison LM LLC of a transaction that will result in a transfer of control of telecommunication companies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01018</td>
<td>01/13/2020</td>
<td>Registration of Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems LLC as a commercial mobile radio service provider.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01019</td>
<td>01/16/2020</td>
<td>Filing by Telrite Corporation d/b/a Life Wireless of updated Informational Tariff No. 2 including updates to Wireless Lifeline Program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01020</td>
<td>01/21/2020</td>
<td>Complaint of PHWLV, LLC d/b/a Planet Hollywood Las Vegas vs. Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for resolution of dispute regarding overpayment of electric service under non-residential tariffs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01021</td>
<td>01/17/2020</td>
<td>Notice by HFA Services LLC d/b/a Call48 of its intent to request numbering resources for various rate centers from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01022</td>
<td>01/17/2020</td>
<td>Application of Rosemount Water Company for authority to increase rates and charges for water service.</td>
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<td>20-01023</td>
<td>01/17/2020</td>
<td>Application of Gentry Place Mobile Home Park to withdraw $949.75 from the tenant service charge account for reimbursement of expenses incurred to repair and maintain the electrical system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01024</td>
<td>01/21/2020</td>
<td>Application of Citadel Solar LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct the Citadel Solar Project consisting of a 250 MW alternating current solar photovoltaic electric generating facility, two 120 kV generation-tie power lines, and associated facilities to be located approximately 10 miles east of Reno in Storey County, Nevada.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01025</td>
<td>01/21/2020</td>
<td>Filings by Eligible Telecommunications Carriers of Federal Communications Commission (&quot;FCC&quot;) Form 555 to comply with the FCC’s annual reporting requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01027</td>
<td>01/24/2020</td>
<td>Notice by Frontier Communications of the Southwest Inc. of Service Catalog updates to include an increase to residential and business non-recurring service charges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01028</td>
<td>01/24/2020</td>
<td>Application of the Department of Health and Human Services Aging and Disability Services Division for approval of a State Fiscal Year (&quot;SFY&quot;) 2021 telecommunication device for the deaf surcharge that is calculated based on its legislatively approved budget for SFY 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01029</td>
<td>01/28/2020</td>
<td>Application of West Safety Communications Inc. for approval of a change of name to Intrado Safety Communications, Inc. for telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (&quot;CPC&quot;) 2689 Sub 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01030</td>
<td>01/27/2020</td>
<td>Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&amp;T Nevada and AT&amp;T Wholesale and CBTS Technology Solutions LLC for approval of an Interconnection and/or Resale Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01031</td>
<td>01/28/2020</td>
<td>Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&amp;T Nevada and AT&amp;T Wholesale and Entelieut Solutions, Inc. for approval of Amendment No. 1 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01032</td>
<td>01/30/2020</td>
<td>Joint Petition of Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&amp;T Nevada and AT&amp;T Wholesale and Entelieut Solutions, Inc. for approval of Amendment No. 1 to their Interconnection Agreement pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-01033</td>
<td>01/30/2020</td>
<td>Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Western States Contracting, Inc. (&quot;Western States&quot;) requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Western States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01034</td>
<td>01/30/2020</td>
<td>Application of Securus Technologies, Inc. for approval of a change of name to Securus Technologies, LLC for telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (&quot;CPC&quot;) 2407 Sub 3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-01035</td>
<td>01/30/2020</td>
<td>Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and V.T. Construction, Inc. (&quot;VT Construction&quot;) requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by VT Construction.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 20-01036   | 01/30/2020       | Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, filed under Advice Letter No. 501, to revise Electric Tariff No. 1-B to reflect the avoided short-term cost rates for purchases from Qualifying Facilities pursuant to Qualifying Facilities Schedule QF - Short Term.