Federal Railroad Administration Region 7, Office of Railroad Safety Papers

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111 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 323-8073
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Federal Railroad Administration Region 7, Office of Railroad Safety Papers
Dates: 1913-1993
Collection Number: MS 638
Creator/Collector: Federal Railroad Administration, Record of Office Safety, Region 7
Extent: 1 box
Repository: California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives
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Abstract: This collection includes correspondence between the Federal Railroad Administration's Office of Railroad Safety in Region 7 and railroad officials. Region 7 is headquartered in Sacramento, California and covers California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona.
Language of Material: English
Access
This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to arrange for access.
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Biography/Administrative History
The Boiler Inspection Act of 1911 gave the Interstate Commerce Commission responsibility for the enforcement of federal safety standards for steam locomotive boilers through its new Division of Locomotive Boiler Inspection. In 1915, responsibility was expanded to include the entire locomotive engine and tender, and consequently, the Division was renamed the Division of Locomotive Inspection, which then became the Bureau of Locomotive Inspection (October 17, 1917). In 1954 the Bureaus of Safety, Locomotive Inspection, and Service were consolidated to form the Bureau of Safety and Service. An ICC reorganization in 1965 changed the name to the Bureau of Railroad Safety and Service (BRSS). In 1967, the BRSS was abolished and its safety activities were transferred to the Department of Transportation's newly formed Federal Railroad Administration, Office of Railroad Safety. Organized into eight regional offices, the Office of Railroad Safety regulates five different aspects of railroad safety, each with its own inspectors and specialists: hazardous materials, motive power and equipment, operating practices, signal and train control, and track structures. The Motive Power and Equipment section is charged with carrying out periodic and unannounced inspections of railroad cars and locomotives to ensure that they are in compliance with federal safety standards, to inspect and observe tests of railroad rolling stock, and to investigate accidents.
Scope and Content of Collection