

Title of Paper:	Practical guidance for assessing and managing operational risk in the New Zealand Railway Environment
NRIAF Meeting:	August 2024
Recommendation:	It is recommended that NRIAF endorse the practical guidance enclosed at Enclosure 1

Background:

The enclosed document, titled "Common Principles for assessing and managing operational risk in the New Zealand Railway environment," provides voluntary guidance for rail participants in New Zealand to assess and manage health and safety risks. The purpose of this guidance is to assist rail participants in consistently applying risk management principles across the industry, helping them meet their legal obligations and improve safety outcomes.

Discussion:

The document offers a set of principles designed to guide rail participants in assessing and managing operational risks. These principles aim to promote consistency, improve safety practices, and support informed decision-making across the New Zealand railway sector. While the guidance is voluntary, it serves as a resource to assist in aligning industry efforts toward enhanced safety outcomes.

By establishing and following these principles, we have the opportunity to reduce variability in risk assessment, improve decision-making, foster a culture of collaboration, and support continuous improvement in rail safety.

The document has been developed in consultation with NRIAF members, with significant feedback incorporated into the final version. The enclosed Document Review Record captures the review and consultation process. This record should be kept for future reference and to assist in ongoing improvements.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the NRIAF:

1. Endorsed the enclosed guidance in accordance with the NRIAF Terms of Reference.
2. Published the enclosed guidance on the Waka Kotahi website.
3. Make the document review record accessible upon request.

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Enclosures:

1. Common Principles for assessing and managing operational risk in the New Zealand Railway environment - Rev 1D, dated August 2024.
2. Document Review Record for the above document – Dated August 2024.