

Swedish Transport Agency

SHK assessment of response from Swedish Transport Agency

The 9 September 2017 the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority (Statens haverikommission – SHK) published the final report RJ 2017:03 about an accident where two trains collided with each other on the line Piteå-Arnemark. In the report a safety recommendation was issued to the Swedish Transport Agency. SHK recommended the Transport Agency to:

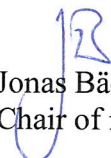
“Within the framework of the agency’s supervisory efforts review how the Swedish Transport Administration through its safety management system, handles the findings highlighted in this report regarding the understanding of, education in, functionality of and follow up on the planning and documentation system STEG and its relation to other traffic control tools (electronic systems and paper forms). (RJ 2017:03 R2).”

The Transport Agency has responded to the recommendation and stated that it will be included in the Agency’s supervisory bank to be subsequently prioritized and coordinated with other supervisory activities in 2018 against the Swedish Transport Administration and possibly other infrastructure managers.

SHK respect that the Transport Agency as a supervisory authority has a difficult task to prioritize, on the basis of available resources, how supervision is to be carried out as well as for such priorities to require careful consideration. The inclusion of SHK’s recommendation in the Agency’s supervisory bank is a natural first step. This means that the recommended measures will be included among the actions between which the Transport Agency will make priorities in 2018.

However, the answer also means that the Transport Agency has not now taken a position on the proposed measures in substance, whether they are to be taken or when to be taken. Based on such an answer, SHK cannot assess whether the recommendation is or will be taken care of. It can only be noted that it is one of several measures that may be handled sometime in the future.

Against this background, SHK considers that the recommendation is only partially taken care of (closed – partly adequate response).


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Chair of investigation