Revise Article C-1.2.2.1 Operations

C - 1.2.2.1 Operations

Railroads may receive notifications of seismic events from varying sources such as United States Geological Survey (USGS), Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), weather alert services, etc. Railroads should ensure that the selected notifications are from a source that is reliable, has rapid response time to an event and can supply all required information.

In addition to notifications of magnitude and epicenter, railroads may choose to utilize ground motion (or shake intensity) mapping to assist in seismic response where it is available from reliable sources. Since, this mapping is typically dependent on the density of the seismic sensor network in place, or is based on reports from residents near the seismic event, the reliability may not be high in all cases. However, it may be useful in modifying the necessary post event inspection area.

A railroad’s means of communications with trains can vary. Each railroad should have a response plan to notify all trains operating in the response area of a seismic event. Train dispatchers, control operators, or other positions designated for control of train operations should use all available systems to notify trains of a seismic event. PTC systems may be more reliable to stop or restrict the movement of trains, but may not be operating dependably due to damages caused by a seismic event.

C - 1.2.2.2 Response Levels

Final Paragraph text:

For many years, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) reported earthquake magnitude…….