



National Railroad Passenger Corporation
Office of Inspector General
10 G Street N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

FAILURE TO OBTAIN REQUIRED PERMITS IN A TIMELY MANNER
JUNE 26, 2013
CASE # MA-12-0099

Office of Investigations reviewed the actions of two managers in the Environmental Department related to the acquisition of environmental permits. The investigation focused on the deliberate failure of these managers to obtain required state and federal permits before proceeding with a large demolition project at the Penn Coach Yard in Philadelphia, and their subsequent attempts at a cover up of their actions. The failure to obtain necessary permits potentially exposed Amtrak to substantial criminal and civil penalties for possible violations of the Federal Clean Water Act and related state statutes and regulations. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ultimately issued the permits, but this occurred twenty-one months after the demolition began. OI found that two managers manipulated data in order to improperly circumvent the permit requirement. They also tried to cover up their actions by attempting to influence a subordinate who was auditing the project. The two officials also attempted to mislead OI investigators and to influence a subordinate's cooperation with the investigation. The company took administrative actions and agreed to make changes to policy and procedures.