



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO OUR FILE

January 31, 2003

A-00105786

SMITH BUS COMPANY INC  
271 OLD WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY  
BLAIRSVILLE PA 15717

DOCUMENT  
FOLDER

Dear Motor Carrier Official,

Act 21 of 2001, signed by the Governor on June 19, 2001, amended the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code by adding subsection 4704 (c) (2) which states:

**(c) Operation prohibited if hazardous. –**

**(2) In the event a motor carrier vehicle or mass transit vehicle is involved in an accident that causes the death of the vehicle operator or another person, the motor carrier vehicle or mass transit vehicle shall be inspected by a qualified Commonwealth employe, as designated by the department in accordance with subsection (f), before the vehicle or driver will be allowed to continue operation.**

As noted in the above citation from the law, mass transit vehicles involved in a fatal crash are now required to have both the vehicle and operator inspected by a qualified Commonwealth employe before either will be allowed to continue to operate. For the inspection of mass transit vehicles, Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers of the Public Utility Commission have received the required training and are the officers designated, by the department, to conduct the required inspections. Please note that the required inspection only applies to rubber tired mass transit vehicles that travel on the highway and have a seating capacity of 15 or more, excluding the driver.

If your company does experience an involvement in a fatal crash, within Pennsylvania, you are to contact the appropriate PUC office, as soon as you become aware of the incident, as shown on the attached enclosures.

DOCKETED  
FEB 11 2003

Very truly yours,

Donald J. Wilson Jr.,  
Motor Carrier Safety Coordinator

Enclosures  
law



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Should one of your vehicles be involved in a fatal crash, please, take the following steps:

**Monday thru Friday between 8am and 4:30pm:**

- Contact the District office that is nearest you.
- Report the crash location, where the vehicle will be taken, where the driver's files are located. **Note:** The vehicle is not to be tampered with or worked on, except that work that must be done to remove the vehicle from the highway, and the driver's records are to be kept as they were at the time of the crash.
- We will make every effort to respond to your report, as quickly as possible, as not to prohibit your vehicle or driver from returning to work. However, please remember that there may be times when the investigation may have to wait up to three (3) days before we can begin our required review.
- At the time of the vehicle inspection you are responsible to provide any mechanical hardware and assistance needed to check the critical items on the vehicle to determine their condition at the time of the crash.
- You will receive a copy of all the documentation that will be forwarded to PA Dept. of Transportation upon completion of the investigation.

**After 4:30 pm, Holidays and Weekends**

During these time periods you should place your call to the Division Safety Office Manager, Don Wilson, at the numbers listed on the following page. Mr. Wilson will arrange for the investigation to begin as soon as practical after the call is received. He will also keep in contact with the carrier during this inspection process.

If there is anyone in your company who may need clarification on duties and responsibilities in the case of a fatal crash, within the Commonwealth, contact Mr. Wilson's office for clarification and assistance.

**PUC District Offices & Contact Persons**

**Altoona**

Denise H. Cohen, Manager  
PA Public Utility Commission  
1602 Eleventh St.  
Altoona, PA 16601  
Ph: (814) 946-7318  
(717) 805-8184 (Cell)

**Harrisburg**

David W. Loucks, Manager  
PA Public Utility Commission  
3<sup>rd</sup> Flr. Comm. Keystone Bldg.  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Ph: (717) 787-7598  
(717) 319-8643 (Cell)

**Philadelphia**

Sant R. Harrison, Manager  
PA Public Utility Commission  
700 Packer Ave  
Philadelphia, PA 19148  
Ph: (215) 952-1190  
(215) 906-7270 (Cell)

**Pittsburgh**

Denise H. Cohen, Manager  
PA Public Utility Commission  
Rm. 1212, State Office Bldg.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Ph: (412) 565-3553  
(717) 805-8114 (Cell)

**Scranton**

David W. Loucks, Manager  
PA Public Utility Commission  
Rm. 320, State Office Bldg.  
Scranton, PA 18503  
Ph: (570) 963-4590  
(717) 319-8643 (Cell)

**Div. Safety Office**

Donald J. Wilson, Jr., Manager  
3<sup>rd</sup> Flr. Comm. Keystone Bldg.  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Ph: (717) 772-2254  
(717) 579-3623 (Cell)  
(717) 432-0661 (Home)