

SENATOR TONY HWANG
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State of Connecticut
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Catherine Rinaldi
President
MTA Metro-North Railroad
420 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10170

August 29, 2018

Dear President Rinaldi,

As the State Senator representing Fairfield and surrounding towns, I write to express serious concerns about Metro-North Railroad's Positive Train Control (PTC) installation. Metro-North has stated that PTC will be installed by the December 31, 2018 deadline. However, the railroad says the system will not be "*fully operational*."

Metro-North has also stated it has the right to submit "*an alternative schedule for up to two additional years to have PTC fully activated across all parts of the railroad upon filing the paperwork with Federal regulators*."

This potential two-year delay on activating this life-saving technology is alarming. Passenger and worker safety should be Metro-North's top priority. We know PTC will improve railway safety. Metro-North needs to seize this opportunity to communicate clearly and frequently with the public. I am strongly urging Metro-North to be as transparent as possible and tell commuters and workers exactly what is going on.

No excuses. No more delays. The federal government gave the Metropolitan Transportation Authority \$1 billion to get this done. It's about our money, our safety, and our rail line. We want accountability.

Among my questions are:

- What is the plan to get PTC fully operational as quickly as possible?

- Does Metro-North plan to shut down any rail line, as New Jersey Transit is doing with the Atlantic City Line? If so, what alternatives will riders have to reach their destinations in a safe and timely manner?
- If Metro-North is granted an extension for full implementation, could it still be fined?

Passengers, workers, and taxpayers deserve to know the answers to these questions. In turn, I can then help provide those answers to the people I represent.

I look forward to Metro-North's proposed solutions.

Cc: Senator Richard Blumenthal
Senator Chris Murphy
Congressman Jim Himes
Commissioner James Redeker

Sincerely,

State Senator Tony Hwang, 28th District