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DOUG GOEHRING



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Aug. 29, 2014

Dear Members of the Surface Transportation Board:

The Surface Transportation Board will hold a public field hearing, Sept. 4, regarding rail service problems in North Dakota and elsewhere in the nation's agricultural heartland.

I would be honored and would welcome the opportunity to testify at this hearing. As North Dakota agriculture commissioner, I represent more than 30,000 family farmers, many if not most of whom are affected by the present rail transportation situation. I am also in near-constant contact with grain elevators, shippers and exporters, who depend on rail traffic to bring their product to market.

I apologize for the tardiness of my request and for missing the Aug. 25 deadline, due to a scheduling error in my office. I hope, however, that what I have to say will be useful to the Board in its fact-finding mission and ultimate decisions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Goehring". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Doug Goehring
North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner