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SERVICE DATE – LATE RELEASE AUGUST 28, 2014

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. EP 724

UNITED STATES RAIL SERVICE ISSUES

Decided: August 28, 2014

By decision served on August 18, 2014, the Board scheduled a public field hearing for September 4, 2014, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fargo, N.D., to provide interested parties the opportunity to report on service problems in the United States rail network, to hear from rail industry executives on their efforts to address service problems, and to discuss additional options to improve service. In its decision, the Board requested notices of intent to participate in the hearing. The schedule of appearances, with allotted times, is in the Appendix to this decision. If a party did not request a specific amount of time, five minutes have been allotted. BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) and Canadian Pacific Railway Company (CP) each will appear during two separate intervals, as follows: during Panel II, BNSF and CP will address the Board and respond to questions from Board members; the purpose of the latter panel is for BNSF and CP to respond to concerns raised during the hearing and answer any additional questions from Board members following the testimony of all other participants.

A live video broadcast of the hearing will be available via the agency's website at "www.stb.dot.gov" under "Information Center: / Webcast / Live Video" on the home page.

Any party wishing to file written comments may do so by September 11, 2014. Comments may be submitted either via the Board's e-filing format or in the traditional paper format. Any person using e-filing should attach a document and otherwise comply with the instructions at the "E-FILING" link on the Board's website at "www.stb.dot.gov." Any person submitting comments in the traditional paper format should send an original and 10 copies of the filing to: Surface Transportation Board, Attn: Docket No. EP 724, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

If a party wishes to enhance its presentation by using visual displays and/or handouts, it may do so. Parties should bring sufficient copies of handouts for Board members and their staffs. Parties may copy computer presentations to a Board-supplied laptop for display in the hearing room. Staff will be available to demonstrate the hearing room's projector system and to assist in the copying of visual presentations onto the laptop computer at check-in. Parties wishing to use the Board-supplied laptop should provide presentations to staff at check-in, on a flash drive and ready to download.

Instructions for Attendance at Hearing

The hearing will begin at 8:00 a.m. in the Iris Conference Room at the Hilton Garden Inn located at 4351 17th Avenue South, Fargo, ND. Those persons speaking at the hearing must check in with the clerk.

Laptops and recorders may be used, but no provision will be made for connecting personal computers to the internet. Cellular telephone use will not be permitted in the hearing room.

Members of the media should contact Dennis Watson in the Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0234, if they plan to attend the hearing.

Persons needing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act should call (202) 245-0245 by the close of business on September 3, 2014.

For further information regarding the hearing, contact Valerie Quinn at (202) 245-0382. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877-8339.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. A public hearing will be held on September 4, 2014, beginning at 8:00 a.m., at the Hilton Garden Inn located at 4351 17th Avenue South, Fargo, ND.
2. Speaker time allotments are in the Appendix to this decision.
3. Any party wishing to file written comments may file their comments with the Board by September 11, 2014.
4. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Joseph Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

APPENDIX**SCHEDULE OF APPEARANCES****THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014 (COMMENCING AT 8:00 A.M.)**

<u>Party</u>	<u>Time Allotted</u>
The Honorable John Hoeven (to speak upon arrival) United States Senate, North Dakota	as needed
The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp (to speak upon arrival) United States Senate, North Dakota	as needed
The Honorable Kevin Cramer (to speak upon arrival) United States House of Representatives, North Dakota	as needed
The Honorable Jack Dalrymple (to speak upon arrival) Governor of North Dakota	as needed
Panel I	
State of South Dakota Lucas Lentsch, Secretary of Agriculture	10 minutes
The Honorable George Sinner North Dakota State Senate	5 minutes
The Honorable Tyler Axness North Dakota State Senate	5 minutes
North Dakota Public Service Commission Commissioner Julie Fedorchak	5 minutes
Commissioner Randy Christmann	5 minutes
Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the State of Minnesota Commissioner Dave Frederickson	5 minutes

Panel II

BNSF Railway Company Stevan Bobb, Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer Robert Lease, Vice President, Service Design and Performance	15 minutes
Canadian Pacific Railway Company John Brooks, Vice President, Market and Sales (Bulk)	15 minutes
Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. David A. Brown, Chief Operating Officer	5 minutes

Panel III

National Coal Transportation Association Thomas C. Canter, Executive Director	15 minutes
Western Coal Traffic League David J. Wanner, Manager – Fuel Services for Wisconsin Public Service	10 minutes
Tennessee Valley Authority David L. Owens, Vice President of Coal & Gas Services	5 minutes
TUCO INC. and NexGen Coal Services, Ltd. Mark L. Adkins, Vice President, NexGen Coal Services, Ltd.	15 minutes

Panel IV

Alliance for Rail Competition, et al. Terry Whiteside	15 minutes
South Dakota Grain & Feed Association Jerry Cope, President	10 minutes
Minnesota Grain & Feed Association Robert Zelenka, Executive Director	5 minutes
North Dakota Grain Growers Association Dan Wogsland, Executive Director	5 minutes
North Dakota Grain Dealers Association Stuart L. Letcher, Executive Vice President	5 minutes
Minnesota Farmers Union Bryan Klabunde	5 minutes

Panel V

National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) 5 minutes
DJ Stadtler, Vice President of Operations

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division – International 5 minutes
Brotherhood of Teamsters
Bruce G. Glover, Vice President

[BREAK]

Panel VI

American Soybean Association 15 minutes
and Minnesota Soybean Growers Association
Lance Peterson

North Dakota Soybean Growers Association 5 minutes
Eric Broten

Trinidad Benham Corporation 5 minutes
Christine O’Connell

Panel VII

Wisconsin Electric Power Company d/b/a We Energies 10 minutes
Randall Van Aartsen, Director, Fuel Supply

Muscatine Power & Water 5 minutes
Ted Barker, President, Maxeefish, LLC

Redfield Energy, LLC 10 minutes
Dana Siefkes-Lewis, Chief Administrative Officer

Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC 5 minutes
James Seurer

Panel VIII

North Central Bean Dealers Association and Northharvest Bean Growers Association John Berthold Brian Schanilec	10 minutes
Gavilon Global Ag Holdings, LLC Ed Prosser, Vice President of Agriculture Trading	5 minutes
North Dakota Farmers Union Roger Zetocha	5 minutes
North Dakota Corn Growers Association Kevin Skunes	5 minutes
Todd Reisenauer, North Dakota Public Service Commission Candidate	5 minutes

Panel IX

BNSF Railway Company Stevan Bobb, Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer Robert Lease, Vice President, Service Design and Performance	
Canadian Pacific Railway Company John Brooks, Vice President, Market and Sales (Bulk)	