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Written Submission to the **Surface Transportation Board**

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Docket #: EP_704_1

Case Title: Review of Commodity, Boxcar and TOFC/COFC Exemptions

Company: Graniterock
P.O. Box 50001
Watsonville, Ca. 95077-5001

Author: Dan Slavin
Manager of Rail Service
(831) 768-2369
dslavin@graniterock.com

Text:

Graniterock is a Captive Rail Shipper which rails Crushed Stone to multiple locations in the San Francisco Bay Area for use in Concrete and Asphalt. There are delivery locations with no viable transportation alternative to rail. Over the decades, Graniterock has made significant investment in these rail-served locations to support rail delivery. Since 2004, rail rates to these locations have increased between 93% and 204% depending on the location. Now R/VC's range from 236% and 280%. The increase in the delivered price of materials has attracted the import of stone from British Columbia into the Bay Area.

Graniterock's rates are too high and we have minimal recourse due to the current commodity exemption. Graniterock commends and supports the Boards proposal to revoke the commodity exemption for STCC # 14-2 and in particular 14-21920.