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Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 724 (Sub-No. 4)
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Surface Transportation Board:

On behalf of more than 42,000 corn farmers nationwide represented by the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) I write in strong support to require all Class I railroads to permanently report certain service performance metrics on a weekly basis.

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) requirement that Class I railroads file weekly reports, following the severe service disruptions in 2013/14, has been a huge benefit to our farmers. The data provides an accurate picture of rail service and railcar availability which in turn helps our farmers make better-informed business decisions.

NCGA is supportive of the 10 current rail service reporting metrics that the STB requires for the Class I railroads as well as the new proposed reporting requirements which include: grain unit train performance, originated carloads by commodity group and car order fulfillment rate by car type.

We believe these reports are also critical to help the STB identify and resolve any future service disruptions. With another record corn crop on the horizon, smooth and efficient rail service is of the utmost importance.

Thank you for taking action to require these rail reports and we urge that you make them permanent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chip Bowling". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chip Bowling
President