

Chairman Daniel R. Elliot III
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

March 15, 2013

Dear Chairman Elliot:

I am interested in and willing to serve on the Railroad Shipper Transportation Advisory Council. Rail transportation affects my own business as a farmer, as well as all of rural America. We as farm producers bear the cost of the rail freight in the marketplace. The STB plays an important role in the shipper/railroad relationship. I am willing to volunteer my time and energy in an effort to promote a positive transportation environment for everyone affected by railroad service.

I have served in various leadership positions in the wheat industry, including President of the Idaho Grain Producers Association and President of the National Association of Wheat Growers. I am also the Secretary/Treasurer of the Alliance for Rail Competition. While serving in these positions as well as others, I have sought out solutions to solve captive shipper problems, and have reached out and met with two of the major railroads. I have found that positive things happen when parties of differing opinions can respectfully converse and work for common goals.

I appreciate the opportunities that I and other agricultural shippers have had in recent years to meet with you and your fellow commissioners. I recognize the challenges that you and we as rail dependent shippers face to ensure fairness in the market place, and I am willing to be of assistance in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

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