

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1317**  
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Mr. Daniel R. Elliot III  
Chairman  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Chairman Elliot:

I write in regards to the service delays Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland Power) is experiencing at its Genoa, Wisconsin power plant and ask for your assistance in resolving this matter. My constituents depend on the electricity generated at Dairyland Power's Alma and Genoa, Wisconsin power plants. These power plants provide electricity for Jo-Carroll Energy, a not-for-profit distribution cooperative headquartered in Illinois' 17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

As you know, a wide range of commodity shippers have experienced rail delays in the last year. Dependable rail service is critical to all commodities, and congestion drives up the costs of products and hurts local economies. I recognize the number of challenges facing railroads, including weather and the recent increased demand for crude oil, and I appreciate the steps the Surface Transportation Board (STB) has taken to address these delays.

In recent weeks, I have received concerning reports regarding Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation (BNSF) service delays. Dairyland Power has stated the lack of service to the Hendricks' harbor has put their coal supply at a perilous level. In the past, BNSF has committed to escalate and focus resources when a customer is facing a severe service issue that could halt operations. This commitment is commendable, and I believe it is a starting point for solving these current service delays. To facilitate communications about this problem and coordination of possible solutions, I believe STB can play a role in helping to resolve this.

Hence, I ask that the STB work with BNSF, Dairyland Power Cooperative, and my office to quickly end these delays at the Genoa plant and ensure the stability of the electric grid in the Midwest region. I would be happy to provide whatever assistance is needed to help this issue come to a resolution. Please contact Todd Wolf at [todd.wolf@mail.house.gov](mailto:todd.wolf@mail.house.gov) in my office if you need more information regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Cheri Bustos,  
Member of Congress