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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

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Mr. Keith Creel
President & Chief Operating Officer
Canadian Pacific
7550 Ogden Dale Road Southeast
Calgary, AB T2C 4X9
Canada

Dear Mr. Creel:

Consistent with the sale of the Dakota, Minnesota, and Eastern Railroad in South Dakota to Genesee & Wyoming, I write to encourage Canadian Pacific (CP) to meet obligations it made regarding provision of grain rail cars to Rapid City, Pierre and Eastern (RCP&E).

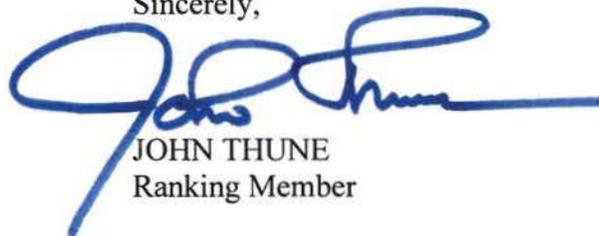
Through the extended winter and spring, South Dakota shippers faced inconsistent, backlogged rail service. I understand that many of the factors contributing to these problems were out of your control, but I urge CP to fulfill those obligations that are within your control, even as CP rebounds from recent flooding conditions in Minnesota.

RCP&E purchased the line in reliance on CP providing a certain number of grain cars during the transition and beyond. It is imperative that CP honor its obligation. Providing the cars as requested will allow RCP&E to successfully transition into operation of the line and restore reliable service for South Dakota's shippers. Failure by CP to provide the cars will prolong the inconsistency and backlog created in the months leading up to the sale.

As the sale and transfer process has shown, reliable rail service is economically crucial to many in my home state. The disruptions faced by our farmers, ethanol producers, and small businesses have very real impacts, not only in the short term, but also in their long term ability to run efficiently and profitably.

I strongly encourage CP to continue to work with RCP&E by prioritizing these much needed grain cars. I will continue to be in touch to ensure that the transition in ownership and operation of the rail line is successful.

Sincerely,



JOHN THUNE
Ranking Member

cc: Surface Transportation Board