

RE: Docket Number EP-726-0

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I am a regular Amtrak rider. The station I normally travel from is Dunsmuir, California.

I ride Amtrak because my home town does not have scheduled air or inter-city bus service. I prefer train travel over air travel because it is more relaxing and enjoyable, and I believe that train travel is the most environmentally friendly mode of long-distance transportation.

On-time trains are important to me because I frequently make connections with other trains and services. If my train is late I may miss a connection. For long distance trips on a train with poor on-time performance where a connection must be made, I find that it is safer to book a hotel room and spend the night so I can make the connection the following day. This adds to the expense and length of the trip.

On-time performance at my station is important to me because the trains all arrive in the nighttime hours, and I must travel 50 minutes to get to the train station. If the train is late it means losing time that would have been better spent sleeping at home.

I believe that on-time performance should be defined as being no more than 10 minutes late at any station, including both intermediate and end-points.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.