



August 29, 2014

Mr. Daniel R. Elliott III, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Elliott:

In response to your letter of August 19, 2014 to ASLRRRA President Richard Timmons the following are the plans and observations of the Pioneer Valley Railroad in Westfield, MA:

- While we normally see a significant spike in traffic levels involving propane and agricultural feeds we do not anticipate any problems as these increases tend to be mitigated by reduction in other seasonal product groups such as lumber, fertilizer and construction related movements.
- We have sufficient locomotive resources to handle anticipated traffic. We have recently increased our hiring of crew members and do not expect any problems in this regard.
- We have recently completed one of our capital projects and will be commencing a second shortly that will improve our ability to store and move cars on our railroad.
- We have sufficient trackage to absorb increased levels of traffic without reducing the fluidity of our operation. Being a New England based company we have a well-developed winter weather plan with the ability to access additional contractor and labor resources as needed.

We are looking forward to an active and productive fall season.

Sincerely,

Michael Rennie
Vice President & General Manger

Cc: Lucille Marvin, STB (via email)
Anika Cooper, STB (via email)
David Whorton, ASLRRRA (via email)