## Surface Transportation Board Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



August 18, 2022

Mr. Mike Bilovesky Kansas City Southern Railway Company P.O. Box 219335 Kansas City, MO 64121

Mr. Steve Ewers Norfolk Southern Corporation 1200 Peachtree St. NE Atlanta, GA 30309

Mr. Todd Glissman BNSF Railway Company 2650 Lou Menk Dr. Fort Worth, TX 76131

Ms. Laura Heisterkamp Union Pacific Corporation 1400 Douglas St., Stop 1310 Omaha, NE 68179

Mr. Ryan Leonard Norfolk Southern Corporation Three Commercial Place Norfolk, VA 23510

Mr. David Przednowek Canadian National Railway Company 821 Lagimodiere Blvd. Winnipeg, MB R2J028, Canada

Mr. Jacob Thomas Union Pacific Corporation 1400 Douglas St., Stop 1310 Omaha, NE 68179 Mr. Daniel Deboer CSX Corporation 3019 Warrington St. Jacksonville, FL 32254

Ms. Lindsey Fisher Canadian National Railway Company 17641 Ashland Ave. Homewood, IL 60430

Mr. Jon Harman Canadian Pacific 120 South 6<sup>th</sup> St. Minneapolis, MN 55402

Mr. Ted Johnson CSX Corporation 500 Water St. Jacksonville, FL 32202

Ms. Kira Murphy Canadian Pacific Building 7550, Ogden Dale Rd. SE Calgary, AB T2C4X9, Canada

Mr. Dan Schueth Kansas City Southern Railway Company 427 West 12<sup>th</sup> St. Kansas City, MO 64105

Mr. Jim Titsworth BNSF Railway Company 2600 Lou Menk Dr., NOC1-034 Fort Worth, TX 76131 Dear NGCC Class I Railroad Members,

The National Grain Car Council (NGCC) was created in 1994 by our predecessor agency, the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC). Since that time, NGCC has served an important role by providing advice and guidance on current and emerging issues related to the transportation of grain by rail and global marketplace conditions affecting supply and demand for U.S. grain. A key strength of NGCC is its diverse and balanced membership, which includes representatives of all Class I railroads, large and small grain shippers, short line railroads, and the private railcar industry. Accordingly, NGCC is well situated to offer vital and timely information to the Board about prevailing operating conditions in the rail industry, as well as the railroads' preparedness to meet the needs of an economic sector that comprises approximately 10% of rail shipments annually, measured by tonnage.

In anticipation of the upcoming August 25, 2022 NGCC meeting in Kansas City, MO, the Board is particularly interested in your reports related to your preparedness to meet the demands of the Fall harvest as it begins to ramp up in September and extends through the turn of the year. As you know, in light of current challenges affecting the four largest Class I railroads, the Board is concerned about the Class I railroads' ability to meet grain shipping needs and is highly focused on whether railroads will have sufficient crew, locomotive, equipment, and capacity resources along key corridors supporting domestic and international markets. For these reasons, the Board looks forward to the reports of the NGCC railroad members, especially as they relate to their readiness posture in comparison to past years. At the same time, the Board is very interested in the views of NGCC's shipper, short line, and railcar industry members on these issues.

The Board looks forward to the upcoming meeting and to a robust and informative discussion with NGCC's members.

Sincerely,

Martin J. alesm

Martin J. Oberman Chairman

Robert E. Primus Member

Karen J. Hedlund Member

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Michelle A. Schultz Vice Chairman

Patrick J. Fuchs Member