



**ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS**

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March 22, 2017

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
March 22, 2017  
Part of  
Public Record

Re: EP 724 (Sub-No. 3), *United States Rail Service Issues – Data Collection*

Dear Ms. Brown:

Pursuant to the decision served in this proceeding on October 8, 2014, the Association of American Railroads, on behalf of its freight railroad member representatives in the Chicago Transportation Coordination Office, hereby files the attached data.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Strafford  
Counsel for the Association  
of American Railroads

## EP 724 - US RAIL SERVICE ISSUES - DATA COLLECTION

Chicago Railroad	Year: 2017	Reporting week	Date Week Began:	03/12/17
			Date Week Ended:	03/18/17

### Chicago Gateway

#### 1. Average Daily Car Counts By Terminal Yard For The Reporting Week

Barr	2,211
Bensenville	874
Blue Island	1,591
Calumet	808
Cicero	670
Clearing	3,557
Corwith	524
Gibson	649
Kirk	1,588
Markham	461
Proviso	2,169
Other Yards	
*See EP 724 (Sub-No.3)*	

#### 2. Average Daily Number Of Trains Held For Delivery To Chicago

IHB	0.14
BNSF	0.00
BRC	0.00
CN	0.00
CP	0.00
CSX	0.00
NS	0.29
UP	0.00

#### NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF OPERATING CONDITIONS

Chicago Integrated Rail Operations Center (CIROC) is staffed 24/7 to monitor and facilitate rail operations. CIROC has direct connections with each carrier and track views to identify issues and assist in their resolution to address congestion and reduce delays.

The Chicago Terminal Operating Condition (OpCon) Agreement provides the framework necessary to quickly identify and mitigate, to the degree reasonably practicable, potential and current operating conditions or events that would negatively impact rail traffic moving via the Chicago Gateway. Safety of operations is integral throughout the OpCon plan processes.

The plan provides for an automated monitoring of terminal, yard, corridor and weather conditions linked to specific levels of volume/activity which could adversely impact terminal operations. These metrics, when exceeding preset levels will require predetermined countermeasures geared to effectively remove a set percentage of cars/trains from the affected location(s) in order to restore fluidity of operations.

Further deterioration of the automatic indicators will require additional, predetermined, focused countermeasures geared to remove an even greater percentage of volumes to expedite a more rapid recovery, while enabling unaffected areas to continue a more normal operation.

Overall Terminal Operating Conditions and Individual Yard, Road or Corridor conditions that impact operations are monitored and categorized separately for purposes of required countermeasures. The Operating Conditions are defined as Green, Yellow and Red. Actions between railroad partners range from a creation of by-pass traffic to specific diversion of Chicago traffic (cars and trains) to other gateways.

CIROC is charged with implementation and management of the Chicago Terminal Operating Condition Agreement which includes quick escalation in cases of ineffective or insufficient countermeasures.

#### CHANGE (+/-) IN REPORTED NUMBERS:

Reported numbers remained similar to last week.

#### OPCON (ALERT LEVEL) CHANGES:

There were no Elevated Levels during the report period.