

November 14, 2017

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thune, Ranking Member Nelson, Chairman Shuster, and Ranking Member DeFazio:

As a follow up to our August 14 letter, the undersigned groups are writing to you on behalf of the Rail Customer Coalition (RCC) to highlight the serious and disruptive rail service problems that many of our member companies continue to experience on the CSX rail network.

The RCC recently sent the attached letter to the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to underscore the ongoing, and in some cases deteriorating, service problems. These includes major service changes imposed with little notice, missed switches and poor communication from CSX. The letter requests a meeting with STB Commissioners to discuss these concerns as well as potential Board actions.

While we appreciate the actions taken to date by the STB, including the October 11 listening session, many problems remain unresolved. We urge Congress and your Committees in particular to examine the CSX service breakdown, and potential means available to the STB to mitigate the adverse impacts to the rail network. The CSX service failures have had a much greater impact on the industry because many businesses are captive customers and do not have any choice when it comes to their rail service provider.

Our members would appreciate additional Congressional oversight of the CSX service disruptions due to the impacts that have been well documented since earlier this year.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association

Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers

Alliance for Rail Competition

American Bakers Association

American Chemistry Council

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Forest & Paper Association

American Malting Barley Association

American Petroleum Institute

Association of Global Automakers

The Chlorine Institute

Corn Refiners Association

The Fertilizer Institute

Glass Packaging Institute

Grocery Manufacturers Association

Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries

International Warehouse Logistics Association

Louisiana Chemical Association

National Association of Chemical Distributors

National Farmers Union

National Industrial Transportation League

Plastics Industry Association

Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association

Private Railcar Food and Beverage Association

Freight Rail Customer Alliance

Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association

The Sulphur Institute

Steel Manufacturers Association

Vinyl Institute

Attachment