



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

302809

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
August 3, 2021
Part of
Public Record

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cynthia T. Brown, Chief, Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings

FROM: Martin J. Oberman, Chairman

RE: Ex Parte Communication Related to Docket No. EP 711 (Sub-No. 1)

DATE: August 3, 2021

On July 30, 2021, my Chief of Staff, Ellen Erichsen, and I received the attached email via blind carbon copy. Please place this memo and the enclosed material in the public docket of Docket No. EP 711 (Sub-No. 1).

From: [Paul Denton](#)
To: [George Betke](#)
Cc: ffrailey@gmail.com; harryparks604@comcast.net; "Bill Stephens"; "Mike Smith (mikesmith@fingerlakesrail.com)"
Subject: Shipper coalition urges federal regulators to permit reciprocal switching - Trains
Date: Friday, July 30, 2021 7:27:30 AM

<https://www.trains.com/trn/news-reviews/shipper-coalition-urges-federal-regulators-to-permit-reciprocal-switching/>

George:

My proposal under ExParte 711 would accomplish this.

Shortlines need to support the Shipper Coalition, but quietly and carefully. Chuck Baker will be nailed by AAR if he doesn't mouth the class 1 party line and class 1s will have their moles checking on individual ASLRRA members to identify which ones need to be 'taught a lesson.'

Class 1 PAC money will start to roll out in big chunks to 'help' Representatives & Senators 'see' the errors of the Shipper Coalition. And if we start to see the Hilal types cash out, watch out for free fall. Bottom line: For those interested in making money IN THE RAILROAD business, this is the beginning needed. On the other hand, for those interested in making money FROM THE RAILROAD business by converting assets to cash, maximizing monopoly power and control & driving up stock prices for buy backs, this is the iceberg in front of their ship.

Chairman Oberman has a difficult path to trod, I don't envy him.

Paul