

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
Telephone: 715-849-5510 Fax: 715-849-5110
Web Page: www.ncwrpc.org Email: staff@ncwrpc.org



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December 2, 2021

303449

Mr. William Brennan, Director
Attn: Alexander Dusenberry
Office of Economics
Surface Transportation Board

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Office of Proceedings
December 23, 2021
Part of
Public Record

Dear Mr. Brennan:

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) is currently working on a Bi-State (WI/MN) Freight Railroad Intermodal Study. NCWRPC has received Freight Rail Infrastructure Improvement Program (FRIIP) and industry funding and is under a contract agreement with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. NCWRPC serves as a planning and development agency for the North Central Wisconsin region. NCWRPC is working with a variety of partner organizations, including but not limited to the Minnesota DOT and Wisconsin DOT.

We hereby request 2018 and 2019 Waybill samples of railroad traffic originating, terminating, or passing through Wisconsin and Minnesota on behalf of our consultant, Prime Focus LLC.

The NCWRPC has contracted with Prime Focus LLC to conduct a market feasibility assessment examining the potential for development of a new truck-rail transload terminal in Wisconsin with a catchment area in the State of Minnesota. This potential terminal would be an economic development asset for the region's communities, as it would provide local business establishments with the opportunity to transload goods locally, instead of utilizing intermodal terminals elsewhere in the Midwest. The STB carload waybill sample will allow Prime Focus LLC to analyze US rail traffic required for the following tasks:

- synthesizing rail-based commodity flows, understanding rail transloading characteristics, and modeling logistics costs of specific rail routes.

This specific information will remain confidential; any findings that use STB confidential waybill sample data will be shared with STB for approval prior to publication. The sample allows Prime Focus LLC staff to do special tabulations into specific station locator codes that will enable them to look at or validate specific routes, costs, lines, and to compare with information that railroads provide.

The names and contact information of staff who will work directly with the data are:

- Elizabeth Ogard: logard@primefocusllc.com
- David Stuebner: David.stuebner@aol.com
- Eric Jessup: eric_jessup@wsu.edu

Thank you in advance for this data. It is crucial to our planning efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 715-849-5510, Ext. 304.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis Lawrence". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Dennis Lawrence, AICP, EDFP
Executive Director