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By E-Filing

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
February 15, 2022
Part of
Public Record

Re: Gulf Coast Passenger Service Between New Orleans and Mobile
STB Finance Docket No. 36496

Dear Ms. Brown:

CSX Transportation, Inc. submits the attached petition of customers, transportation partners, and industry associations for the Surface Transportation Board's consideration.

Sincerely

/s/ Matthew J. Warren

Matthew J. Warren

cc: FD 36496 Service List

Dear Surface Transportation Board Members:

The undersigned are businesses and industry associations that rely heavily on the freight rail service provided by CSX Transportation, Inc. We write to express concerns regarding Amtrak's attempt on the Gulf Coast to force new passenger service on freight lines without any consideration for the negative impacts on freight service and communities.

The outcome of the STB hearing will be precedent setting and will have far reaching consequences. We are deeply concerned that Amtrak is attempting to force itself on the lines between New Orleans and Mobile and Amtrak could deploy this unreasonable approach elsewhere across the U.S.

We understand that CSX provides essential freight service in New Orleans and Mobile as well as access to the many ports along the Gulf Coast, through which many businesses access greater domestic and international markets. Freight rail service is critical to the success of these businesses.

Amtrak wants an addition of four passenger trains per day during peak hours over a largely single track corridor that is burdened with multiple moveable bridges. The prospect of these additional trains without additional infrastructure is a grave concern. We understand that a study has been done that shows the introduction of passenger service between New Orleans and Mobile will cause significant harm to freight service. We are well aware of the meaningful impact that freight train delay and decreased train speeds will have on the ability of businesses to meet the demands of customers.

To be clear, the undersigned do not oppose passenger service and express no opinion on the merits of service on the Gulf Coast. However, it is critical that the introduction of any new passenger service does not decrease the quality of freight rail service over the heavily used corridor or anywhere else in the U.S. In our view, it is unfair for Amtrak to insist on operating passenger service without regard to the businesses with which it will share the corridor. In the end, the burden of any decrease in the quality of freight rail service will inevitably fall on our shoulders and that of our own customers.

We urge the Board to protect the interests of all parties that rely on the national rail network.

- 84 Lumber
- A&R Bulk-Pak , Inc.
- Admyrd llc
- Agcom Inc
- Agg-Tran, LLC.
- Agmark Logistics
- Agracel Rail Holdings
- AGRU America

- AIP Logistics
- All Points Transport
- All States Asphalt Inc
- Alliance Shippers Inc
- Alpha Metallurgical Resources
- Alto Ingredients
- American Forest & Paper Association
- Argos USA, LLC
- Ascent
- Ashland Railway, Inc.
- ASR
- B & D Intermodal
- BB&S Treated Lumber of New England
- Berg Pipe
- BG Transportation
- Big Sky Environmental
- BLUE & GREY TRANSPORT, LLC - IREX
- Blue Line Consultants
- BNSF Logistics
- Bond Industries, Inc.
- Brenntag Mid-South
- BTX Global Logistics
- Buckingham Branch Railroad Co
- Bushmans' Inc
- C.R. England
- CAIT LLC
- Cal-Chlor Corp
- Carmeuse
- Case Farms, L.L.C.
- Cathcart Rail
- Cebev LLC - Juice Bowl
- Celtic Intermodal
- Cemex
- Central Indiana & Western Railroad
- CertainTeed
- Charles Ingram Lumber Co., Inc
- Cheney Lime & Cement Co.
- CMA CGM America LLC
- CMG
- Colonial Chemical Solutions, Inc
- Commonwealth Coal Marketing, Inc.
- Cornerstone Systems Inc.
- Covanta
- Covia
- Crystal Clean
- CTI Freight Systems, Inc.
- Cushing Transportation
- D-A Lubricant
- DeFeo Materials Inc
- Diamond Green Diesel
- Diamond Pet Foods
- Dover Chemical Corporation
- Dura-Line Corporation
- East Coast Rail Solutions Inc
- Echo Global Logistics
- Ecolab
- Effingham Railroad Co.
- Energy Solutions
- EnergySolutions, LLC
- F. Garcia Wholesale & Export, Inc.
- Federal White Cement
- Filmquest Group Inc.
- Florida Mineral Salt & Agricultural Products, LLC
- GCT USA
- GE Renewable Energy
- Georgia Ports Authority
- GPOD of Idaho
- Grafton and Upton Railroad Company
- Great Lakes Central Railroad
- Greenbrier
- GSCX General Service Cleaning, LLC
- Hamburg Sud A Maersk Company
- Hankook Tire Manufacturing Tennessee
- Harbor Freight Transport
- Helm Fertilizer Coporation
- Henwil Corporation
- Heritage Environmental Services, LLC
- HJ Baker
- Hunt Forest Resources, LLC
- Hunt Refining Company
- IFC North America Inc
- Incobrasa Industries Ltd.
- Indiana Chamber of Commerce

- Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad Company
- Innophos
- Inteplast Engineered Films, Inc.
- Interfor Corporation
- Intracom, LLC
- Intransit Container, Inc.
- Invista
- JAS FORWARDING USA
- Javelin Global Commodities
- Jindal Films LLC
- Joe Piper Inc
- Kentuckians for Better Transportation
- Koppers
- Kraton Polymers LLC
- L S Logistics
- Laufer Group Intl
- LifeLine Foods, LLC.
- Lighten The Load, Inc.
- Louis Dreyfus Company LLC
- LTE Rail Services
- Mack Brick Company
- Magellan Transport Logistics
- Malt Products
- Maple Leaf Distribution
- Marval Industries Inc
- MHF Services
- MIN-AD, Inc. & Inter-Rock Minerals Inc
- Modern Dispersions South
- Morral Companies, LLC
- Mountaire Farms, Inc.
- MS Walker Inc
- Multi-Plastics Extrusions, Inc.
- Nan Ya Plastics Corporation
- Nash Johnson/Columbia Farms/House of Raeford
- National Sugar Marketing
- Natural Soda LLC
- ND Paper Fairmont Division
- Neo Solutions, Inc.
- Nissan North America
- Northern P Logistics
- Nutrien Ag Solutions
- Off Shore Vending
- Olin Corporation
- Pacific Trailer Repair Services
- Peeples Industries, Inc.
- PFQ COMPANIES
- Piedmont Lithium Limited
- Pioneer Lines
- Plasmine Technology, Inc.
- Poly Plastic Products
- Progressive Rail
- QFS Transportation
- Quality RailService
- Quality Transportation Services Inc
- Rail Solutions of Alabama, Rail Solutions of Florida LLC
- South Carolina Ports Authority