

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

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Public Record

Docket No. EP 711 (Sub-No. 1)

RECIPROCAL SWITCHING

**SUMMARY OF EX PARTE MEETING BETWEEN U.S. WHEAT ASSOCIATES AND
MEMBER FUCHS**

4/21/2022

U.S. Wheat Associates Attendees:

- Justin Gilpin, Kansas Wheat Commission, Chief Executive Officer
- Michael Anderson, Market Analyst
- James S. Peterson, North Dakota Wheat Commission, Policy and Marketing Director
- Daniel Elliott, Legal Counsel
- Charlie Vogel, Minnesota Wheat Research & Promotion Council, Chief Executive Officer

Surface Transportation Board Attendees:

- Patrick Fuchs, Board Member
- Lisa Novins, Attorney Advisor
- Stephanie Borges, Senior Executive Assistant

Meeting Summary:

First, USWA introduced its participants and its mission and purpose.

Member Fuchs then asked about how rail service was for wheat shippers. USWA described issues with rail service and how important it was for wheat shippers to get their wheat out at the present time because of the wheat shortages brought on by the Ukraine war.

Member Fuchs then described the possibility of using reciprocal switching as remedy for service problems. He emphasized the importance of a clear definition of when one would get a switch and of a clear method to set a fee for the switch. The group discussed this concept.

The group then discussed how long a switch would be in place under this concept. It seemed to USWA that a minimum period should be established; otherwise, parties would not be willing to seek the remedy.