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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

307189

September 22, 2023

Ms. Cynthia Brown, Chief
Section of Administration Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 22, 2023
Part of
Public Record

**RE: Docket No. NOR 42178, Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC – Ex Parte Petition for
Emergency Service Order**

Dear Ms. Brown,

BNSF respectfully submits the attached data for the week ending September 6, 2023 in accordance with the Board's June 23, 2023 decision in the above-referenced proceeding.

BNSF provides the following information to the Board related to BNSF's service.

Reporting Period

As indicated in previous reports, BNSF defines a week as running from each Thursday to Wednesday of the following week. For this report, the backward-looking data includes traffic moving between Thursday, September 14, 2023, and Wednesday, September 20, 2023 and the forward-looking data includes traffic expected to move between Thursday, September 21, 2023, and Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

Factors Impacting Capacity and Cycle Times

As BNSF has reported over the last few weeks, on August 29, 2023, Westshore experienced an outage of unloading equipment that has increased the amount of time it takes to unload a train. As of the time of this report, BNSF understands that the outage is ongoing. Westshore has not provided an estimate as to when the unloading equipment will be repaired and brought back online. The on-going outage of unloading equipment at Westshore continues to create congestion and reduce BNSF's available unloading slots going into Westshore. BNSF continues to navigate the impacts of the unloading delays at Westshore on BNSF's available crew base and resulting increased cycle times.

BNSF has previously noted that it works closely with Westshore to understand any operational issues that impact available loading slots for BNSF as they arise. BNSF uses that information to ensure staffing levels are sufficient to meet anticipated traffic volumes and to minimize impacts on BNSF's customers. BNSF is also in regular communication with NTEC about any operational issues at Westshore that may

impact BNSF's ability to deliver export coal so that NTEC can work with Westshore to minimize impacts on NTEC's traffic moving into Westshore.

Last week BNSF projected six (6) NTEC export coal trains leaving Spring Creek Mine between September 14, 2023 and September 20, 2023; BNSF's actual traffic level for this period was six (6) NTEC export coal trains.

Efforts to Hire Additional Crews

As previously reported, BNSF continues to aggressively seek to add new employees in the Pacific Northwest and to incentivize relocation of employees from other parts of its network. Four (4) engineers graduated from Engineer Training on September 16, 2023 and have joined the Everett crew base. BNSF has addressed new Canadian hours of service restrictions in its bi-weekly updates on crews. BNSF continues to review and adjust our hiring plan to ensure we have sufficient available crews to move traffic into Canada.

Efforts to Acquire Additional Trainsets

BNSF continues to monitor the number of trainsets in service to Westshore Terminal and evaluate whether the acquisition of new trainsets is necessary given service levels to NTEC and BNSF's other export customers and demand profiles. While newly acquired trainsets have not been added to BNSF's coal service, NTEC's average daily trainset usage for export coal has increased over the last several months through the addition of existing BNSF trainsets to the export coal lane. As both NTEC and BNSF noted in previous weeks' reports, BNSF moved twenty-nine (29) export coal trains for NTEC in August without either party acquiring additional trainsets.

BNSF also continues to monitor the price of export coal and its impact on market demand for coal moving to Westshore Terminals for export. BNSF remains in close communication with our export customers in light of the changing export market conditions to understand forward looking demand and ensure BNSF has the resources required to meet that demand.

Sincerely,



Jill Rugema
General Attorney

Attachment

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

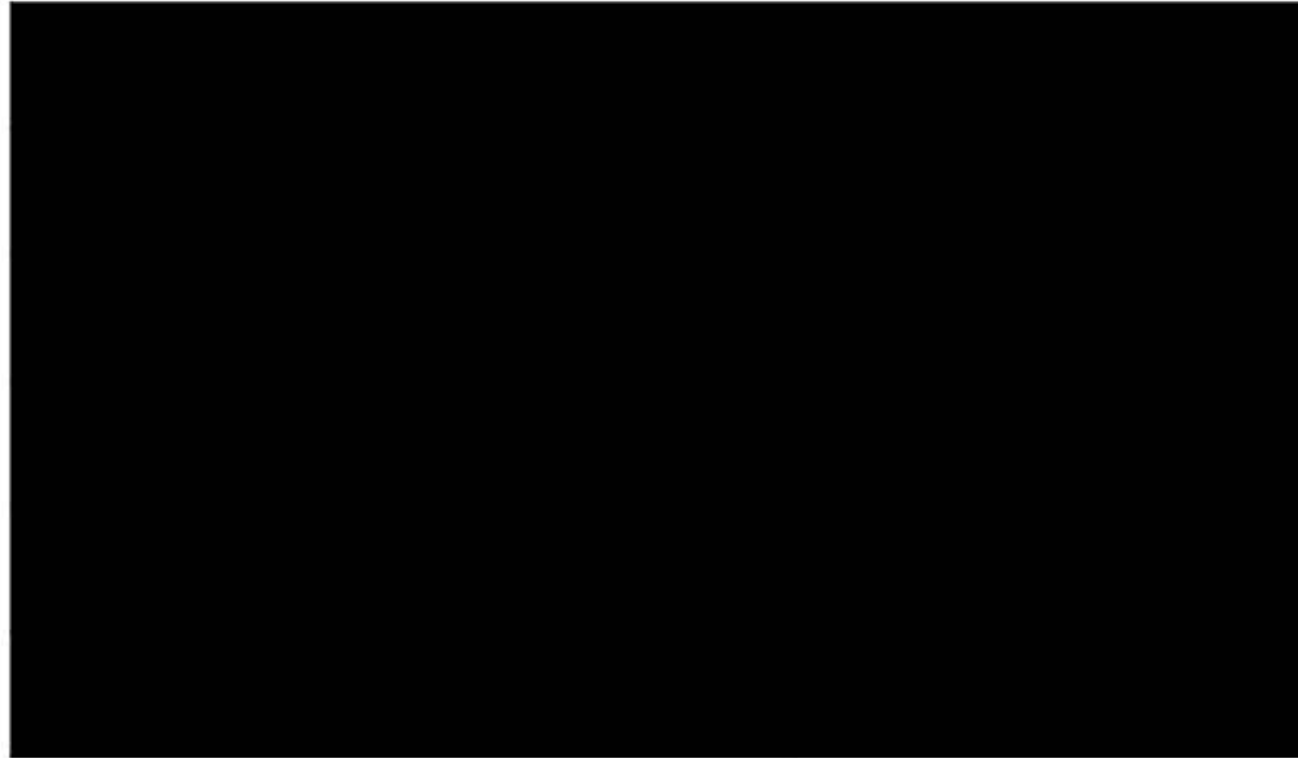
I certify that on September 22, 2023, I served copies of this document upon all parties of record in this proceeding.



Jill Rugema

NTEC *Ex Parte* Pet. For Emergency Svc. Order (NOR 42178)

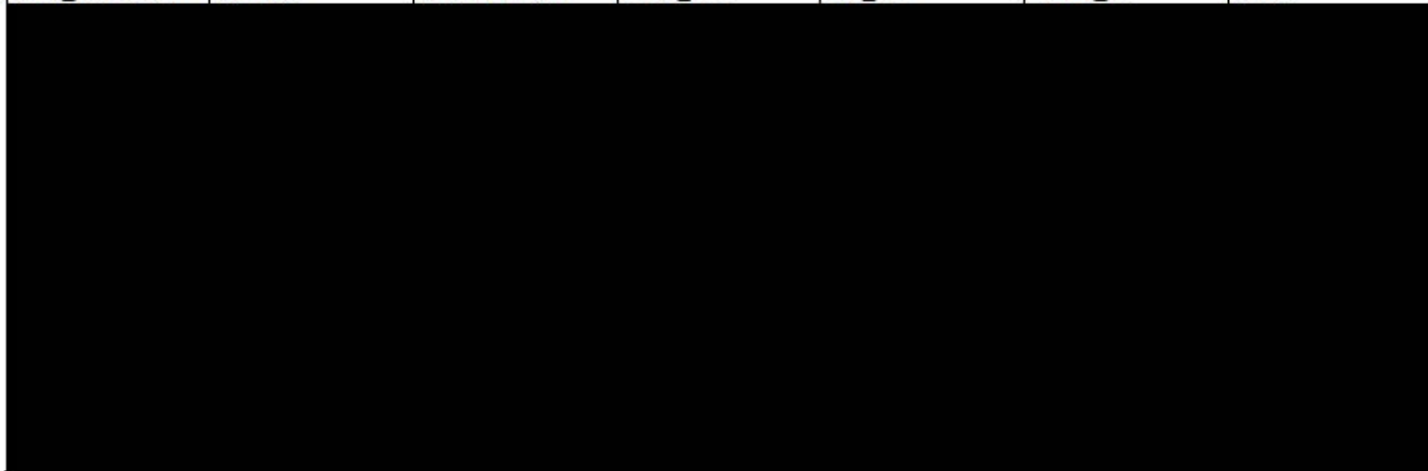
Reporting Period: 9/14/2023 through 9/20/2023



REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

NTEC Trains from Spring Creek Mine to Westshore Terminals September 14, 2023 through September 20, 2023

STCC_NUMBER	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	SHPR_633	WB_DT	TRAIN_ID	TONS
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REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

Daily Trainsets Deployed from Spring Creek Mine September 14, 2023 through September 20, 2023					
Date	# of Trainsets Deployed				

REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

Everett, WA Available TY&E Crews

TY&E Available Crews	Change from Prior Period
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