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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
October 6, 2023
Part of
Public Record

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

October 6, 2023

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

**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 October 4, 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 28, 2023, and Wednesday, October 4, 2023, and the forward-looking data includes traffic expected to move between Thursday, October 5, 2023, and Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

Factors Impacting Capacity and Cycle Times

As BNSF reported last week, on September 26, 2023, Westshore restored service to unloading equipment that had been out of service since August 29, 2023. Westshore has now resumed pre-outage operations, decreasing unloading times for all traffic moving into Westshore. Throughout the last week, BNSF has continued to navigate the residual impacts of the nearly month-long unloading delays at Westshore on BNSF's available crew base and resulting increased cycle times.

In addition to the delays BNSF has outlined as a result of the outage of Westshore unloading equipment, BNSF has identified 165 railcars used in export service that were damaged by the unloading equipment before Westshore took the unloading equipment out of service. BNSF is in the process of removing the damaged railcars service to be repaired. While this has not directly impacted cycle times or the number of trains BNSF is able to move in export service, it has reduced the average number of railcars per train in export service, reducing the number of tons of coal per train and, ultimately, the amount of export

coal BNSF is able to move until the cars are repaired and/or BNSF is able to move other railcars into export service.

Last week BNSF projected five (5) NTEC export coal trains leaving Spring Creek Mine between September 28, 2023 and October 4, 2023; BNSF's actual traffic level for this period was five (5) 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 in September 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 and twenty-six (26) export coal trains for NTEC September 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 October 6, 2023, I served copies of this document upon all parties of record in this proceeding.



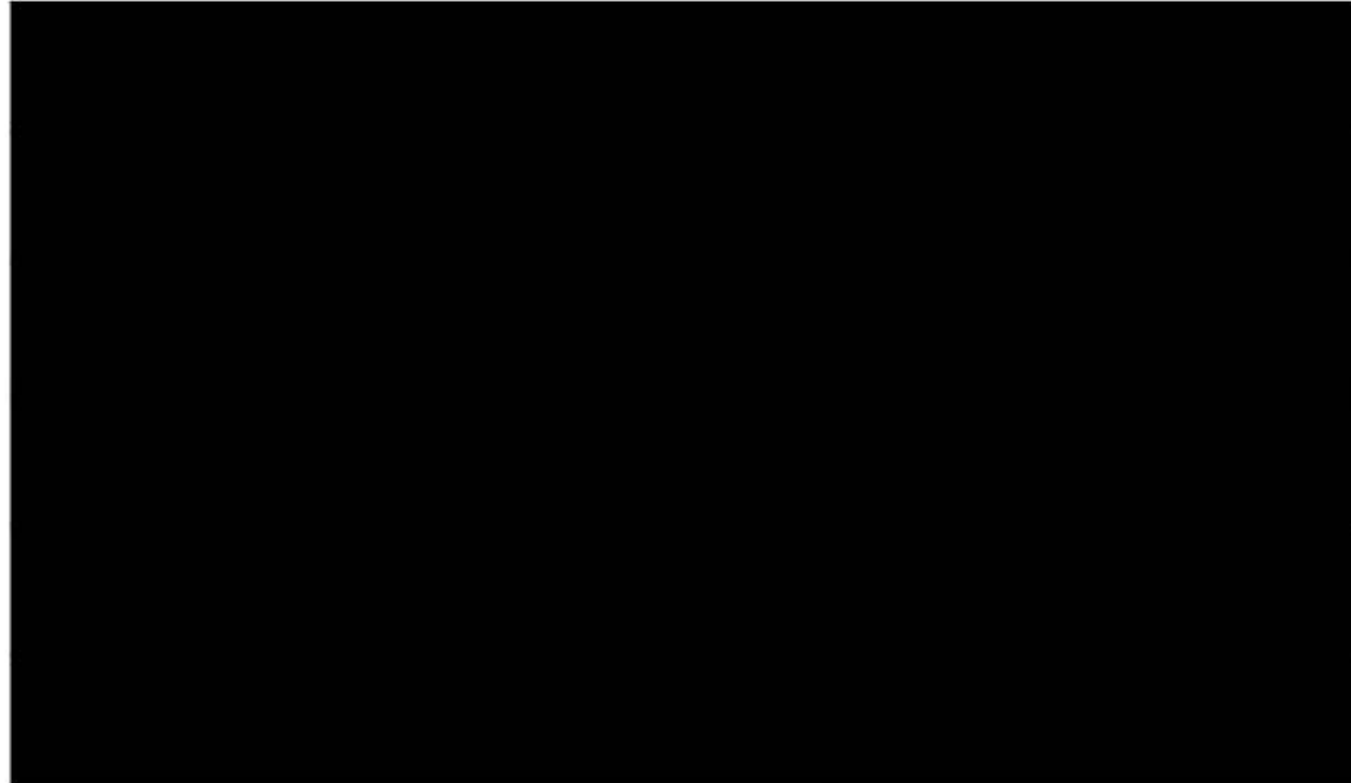
Jill Rugema



REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

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

Reporting Period: 9/28/2023 through 10/4/2023



REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

NTEC Trains from Spring Creek Mine to Westshore Terminals September 28, 2023 through October 4, 2023						
STCC_NUMBER	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	SHPR_633	WB_DT	TRAIN_ID	TONS

REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

Other NTEC Traffic Originating at Spring Creek Mine September 28, 2023 through October 4, 2023						
STCC_NUMBER	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	SHPR_633	WB_DT	TRAIN_ID	TONS

REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

Non-NTEC Export Coal Traffic Moving to Westshore September 28, 2023 through October 4, 2023						
STCC_NUMBER	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	SHPR_633*	WB_DT	TRAIN_ID	TONS

REDACTED - TO BE PLACED ON PUBLIC FILE

Daily Trainsets Deployed from Spring Creek Mine September 28, 2023 through October 4, 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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