

FD_36818

309165

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

February 5, 2025

Part of
Public Record

January 31st, 2025

Caleb Fetrow
261 SE Dimick ST
Dallas, Oregon 97338

Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street SW Washington DC 20423

Honorable Mr. Fuchs and Esteem Members of the Surface Transportation Board

RE: Opposition to the Union Pacific proposed leased agreement to hand over all yard and local Jobs to the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad.

My name is Caleb Fetrow I've been working on a class one Railroad since the age of 19 when I first hired out in 2012 with Canadian Pacific railroad. I hired out on a time with CP Rail when service was bad, and the railroad was not doing very well as a whole. During my year stint with CP Rail I got to witness them bring in CEO Hunter Harrison which along with him brought along the Cancer that is infecting our industry in the U.S Rail today. Cut cost labor equipment and provide a bad service to the shippers/customers. I was furloughed due to CP Rail and their PSR decision and moved back home to the Northwest where I then hired out with my current employer Union Pacific.

I got to work with a lot of experienced railroaders and learned what it takes to provide good service to the shippers. We were able to keep cars moving to customers and keep whatever the products they were paying us to ship. Then when Union Pacific decided to implement PSR and the operating model back in 2020 that's when I started to see the real effects of it. They cut are manpower locomotives and expected the us to an impossible task with less resources. So, with that said as like such we fall behind and shippers don't get serviced, and product doesn't move. Then the Union Pacific decided to negotiate an agreement to get rid of all our Brakeman and yard helpers and now expecting one guy to do the work of two. So, as we try to keep up with demand for what the shippers need, we can't do our jobs effectively due to the Union Pacific not providing us with the resources to do our job.

I've been working a local train out of Salem Oregon on and off over the last 7 years as my seniority allows me to hold the job and when I had a full crew conductor brakeman and engineer we could knock out 8 to 10 customers in a 12 hour shift the Job ran like clockwork we would spot a car to a customer and in less than 24 hours we would be pulling it and sending it to its next destination. When the Union Pacific started going all out on PSR we started getting told to only service certain shippers on certain days even though they were paying for 5 day a week service. So, with all that said this is why I'm opposing the Union Pacific Eugene lease deal. Over the last several years UP has been neglecting shippers in the Eugene area cutting jobs limits to what days we service the customers and like such shippers are complaining about service the UP has been giving

us excuse after excuse why they can't add jobs to the Eugene Terminal not enough business manpower not enough locomotives the list goes on. This is all self-caused by the UP and their PSR plan. If they provided us what we need instead of cutting everything to the bare bone we as a class one Railroaders could service everybody who wanted rail service in the Eugene and surrounding areas. But the UP won't do it because it cuts into their profit. The fact they want to bring in a Class three short line to run Eugene yard is a slap in the face to all the hard-working men and woman who call Eugene terminal home.

This whole lease deal is an accident waiting to happen. We move a lot of hazmat through the terminal and spot and pull a lot of chemical plants that take a lot of know-how on how to spot them safely and efficiently. They are going to now have people who are not trained or brand new to the industry due to the Central Oregon and Pacific has nowhere near the manpower to staff the terminal to what it needs the be. The Union Pacific though does they have the manpower locomotives and all the people who are properly trained to the all the jobs that it requires to run Eugene terminal.

Sincerely

Caleb Fetrow
503-267-4432

sd40_25@yahoo.com

cc: Parties of Record