



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

April 7, 2025

Justin J. Marks
Clark Hill
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Suite 1300 South
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Docket No. FD 36847, Laredo Gateway Industrial Railway, LLC –
Construction and Operation Exemption – In Webb County, Texas;
Waiver of Six-Month Prefiling Notice Requirement

Dear Mr. Marks:

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.10(c)(2), the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is granting your March 31, 2025 request for a waiver of the six-month prefiling notice normally required for rail construction projects under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.10(a)(1).

On February 13, 2025, OEA met with representatives from the Laredo Gateway Industrial Railway, LLC (LGIR), outside legal counsel, and LGIR development partners. At the meeting, LGIR explained that it intends to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 13,850 feet of new common carrier rail line near Laredo, Texas (the Line). During the meeting, LGIR explained that the Line would extend from a new Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) switch on the UP Laredo Subdivision to a new industrial park, known as the Gateway Industrial Park (GIP). LGIR stated that GIP would leverage the property's location adjacent to the UP line and the United States border with Mexico to serve cross border logistics and that the Line and GIP would convert truck freight hauling to rail. LGIR also indicated that it entered into an operating agreement with Iron Horse Resources, Incorporated (IHR) and that it intends to seek operating authority for IHR from the Board.

At the February 13, 2025 meeting, OEA provided a general overview of the Board's environmental review process, OEA's role in the process, and the use of third-party consultants. OEA believes that LGIR is sufficiently aware of OEA's environmental process to grant the 6-month waiver request. OEA will defer LGIR's EIS waiver request until after OEA completes a site visit and receives feedback from federal, state and local agencies in the project area.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Andrea Poole of my staff at 202-245-0305.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle Gosselin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Danielle" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Gosselin".

Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis Surface
Transportation Board