



Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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Office of Chief Counsel
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The Honorable Troy E. Nehls
1104 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Nehls,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding Union Pacific Railroad Co.—Construction and Operation Exemption—In Matagorda County, TX, Docket No. FD 36854. I appreciate hearing your views about how rail access and a dependable rail network are essential to support the growth of American businesses, including the industries in Matagorda County, and how the proposed rail construction project could benefit the region, improve safety and congestion, and expand domestic and international markets for products from Matagorda County.

As you know, Union Pacific filed its Petition with the Board on September 24, 2025, for an exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. §10901 to construct and operate approximately five miles of rail line in south central Matagorda County, near Wadsworth and Bay City, Texas. Because this matter is pending, I cannot comment further. However, please be assured that the Board remains strongly committed to facilitating efficient market entry and ensuring a reliable national supply chain.

A copy of your letter and this reply have been placed in the docket on the Board's website. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Ms. Janie Sheng, Director of the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance, at 202-245-0238.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Fuchs
Chairman