



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

May 18, 2026

Tanya Spratt
 Union Pacific Railroad Company
 1400 Douglas Street, 15th Floor
 Omaha, NE 68179

By email at tspratt@up.com

RE: Docket No. FD 36854, Union Pacific Railroad Company – Construction and
 Operation Exemption – in Matagorda County, Texas; **Information Request No. 1**

Dear Ms. Spratt:

Consistent with 49 CFR § 1105.7(f), the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) requests the information below, which is needed to support the environmental review in connection with the above-referenced proceeding.

1. Rail Construction

- A. Provide a description and digital mapping (GIS or KMZ), including cross sections, as applicable, of the proposed rail line and any reasonable alternatives, including:
 - i. Number of tracks;
 - ii. Elevation above grade;
 - iii. Any at-grade or grade separated crossings;
 - iv. Termini, alignment, and width of any planned access roads;
 - v. Drainage and stormwater management features;
 - vi. Any supporting structures;
 - vii. Other features such as fencing and lighting; and
 - viii. If any of these characteristics vary along the length of the proposed rail line, provide descriptions and/or cross sections for each varying segment.
- B. Provide a description and digital mapping (GIS or KMZ) of the construction plan for the proposed rail line and any reasonable alternatives, including:
 - i. Location and size of laydown/staging areas; and
 - ii. Total construction footprint/limit of disturbance (including laydown/staging areas).
- C. Provide a description and digital mapping (GIS or KMZ), including cross sections, as applicable, of any proposed realignments for the Western Wye.

- D. Provide a description and digital mapping (GIS or KMZ), including cross sections, as applicable, of any proposed realignment of Farm to Market Road (FM) 3057.
 - E. Provide a description and digital mapping (GIS or KMZ), including cross sections, as applicable, of any Lower Colorado River Authority canal crossings.
 - F. Provide a description and digital mapping (GIS or KMZ), if available, for any proposed utility line relocations.
 - G. Provide digital mapping (GIS or KMZ) of the existing railroad right-of-way along the Celanese Industrial Lead that connects to the Western Wye, including ownership and any known easements or use restrictions.
 - H. Provide digital mapping (GIS or KMZ) of the existing right-of-way for the Cities Service Track, Farm to Market Road (FM) 2668, and the width of any proposed right-of-way.
 - I. Provide a description of the construction methods and activities, including depth of excavation, and an estimate of the construction period duration and the sequence of construction activities.
 - J. Provide a list or general description of the anticipated construction equipment and an estimate of the quantity of construction materials to be used. Please also describe how construction materials, including rail, ties, and ballast, would be delivered to the site (rail, truck, or a combination of both) and the anticipated travel routes.
 - K. Describe any property acquisition required for the proposed rail line.
2. Rail Operations
- A. Provide the anticipated hours of train operations, specifying whether trains would operate during nighttime hours.
 - B. Provide estimates of the average number of locomotives per train, the average number of railcars per train, the average total length (in feet) of trains, and the anticipated average train speed.
 - C. Provide information on the anticipated locomotive types and EPA emissions tiers, if available, and a description of the anticipated locomotive idling practices.
 - D. Indicate whether railcars would contain hazardous materials and, if so, identify the general types of materials.

- E. Provide a description of anticipated operations on a typical day five years after the date of the anticipated year of issuance of a final decision by the Board,¹ including:
- i. Average daily number of inbound and outbound trains;
 - ii. Average length, number of cars, number of locomotives, and speed of trains; and
 - iii. General description of goods being carried (e.g. intermodal containers, general merchandise, etc.).

3. Future Shippers

- A. The Petition for Exemption and the Alternatives Report reference the potential to serve future rail-served customers or industrial development along the proposed line. Please identify any prospective shippers by name and provide their general locations, if available.
- B. Provide a brief description and map of the approximate location, if available, of the potential industrial park located south of Gilmore Road and north of the LyondellBassell facility.

4. Grade Crossings

- A. Provide conceptual design plans for each proposed at-grade rail crossing showing the proposed train warning system at the crossing and the level of protection proposed such as gates, flashing lights, cantilever flashing lights, or crossbucks.
- B. Provide any traffic studies and grade crossing delay studies that have been conducted for the proposed at-grade crossings, if available.

5. Agency and Public Coordination

- A. Clarify whether state or local permits or approvals would be required as part of project implementation and provide the status.
- B. Identify and summarize coordination conducted to date with the public and/or local governments regarding the proposed rail line. Please provide copies of written correspondence or summaries of meetings, if available.

6. Environmental Information

- A. Provide any environmental studies or surveys previously conducted within or along the proposed project area, such as wetlands delineations, cultural resources

¹ For example, if the Board's anticipated final decision would be issued in 2026, the forecast year for transaction-related rail traffic should be 2031.

surveys, or Phase I or Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, if available. If no such studies or surveys have been completed to date, please confirm this.

Please provide your written response as soon as possible and no later than **June 5, 2026**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Karen Stevens of my staff at 202-245-0304 or by email at Karen.Stevens@stb.gov. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

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