



RANDY WEBER
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, TEXAS

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Office of Proceedings
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March 17, 2019

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20423

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs
Vice Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20423

The Honorable Martin J. Oberman
Board Member
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: *STB Docket Nos. 36186 and 36186 (Sub-No.1)*

Dear Chairman Begeman and Board Members Fuchs and Oberman,

I am writing to respectfully request your prompt consideration and review of the above referenced proceedings involving Texas Railway Exchange LLC's (TREX's) proposed construction of a new common carrier line between BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) and Texas International Terminals (TIT). This project represents a significant private sector investment for the region, including my congressional district.

TIT is an important locally-owned business in Galveston, Texas that has spent tens of millions of dollars of its own money over the past several years to redevelop and transform its terminal into a world-class liquid and dry-bulk multi-modal facility along the Galveston Ship Channel. While no small feat, TIT has quickly established itself as a leading terminal of its kind in the Gulf Region and beyond. However, TIT faces substantial business constraints and risks because all BNSF shipments to TIT must be reciprocally switched by the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP), causing unnecessary delays and increasing costs for customers. This lack of direct access to two railroads also places TIT at a competitive disadvantage to other regional ports and terminals that enjoy two carrier, direct service.

TREX's proposal will provide direct rail service from BNSF to TIT and will produce more efficient and dependable rail service, while promoting rail competition and increasing the efficiency of rail operations. Public health and safety will also benefit from reduced switching, fewer number of at-grade crossings, and lower locomotive emissions resulting from the project.

I urge the Board to establish an expedited procedural schedule, to promptly review TREX's proposed construction and its petition for a crossing without delay, and to engage in a balanced and fair application of governing law. Please keep me apprised of developments in these proceedings, and thank you for your attention and consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy K. Weber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Randy" being more prominent than the last name "Weber".

Randy K. Weber
Member of Congress