



CERES
GLOBAL AG CORP.

1660 S Hwy 100, Suite 350
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
(952) 746-6828
www.ceresglobalagcorp.com

April 23, 2018

245572

245573

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Proceedings
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
April 25, 2018
Part of
Public Record



**Re: Docket No. FD 36178, Metropolitan Council – Petition for Declaratory Order
Docket No. FD 36177, Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority – Acquisition Exemption –
In Hennepin County, Minnesota**

**LETTER IN SUPPORT OF TWIN CITIES & WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY'S
INITIAL REPLY REQUESTING THE BOARD TO SET A PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Dear Ms. Brown:

My name is Joseph Fiereck. I am the Logistics Manager for Ceres Global Ag Corp. One of our grain elevators is located in Savage, MN. This elevator is owned by Riverland Ag Corp. Riverland Ag Corp is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ceres Global Ag Corp. This location receives grain from grain elevators served by the Twin Cities & Western Railroad (TCWR). In 2017, this facility received 1,750 car loads of grain. This represents roughly 6,500 trucks that did not come into the Twin Cities area. We hope to expand our rail volume going forward.

It has come to our attention that the negotiations between the TCWR and the Metropolitan Council regarding operations over some segments of track owned by the Council have ceased. We support the need for increased light rail usage, but putting more trucks on the road to replace the commuters' automobiles is not the path forward.

Ceres Global Ag Corp urges the Board to set a procedural schedule in the above referenced proceeding (FD 36178) to permit public comment and a full hearing on Metropolitan Council's Petition seeking to acquire ownership of the Bass Lake and Kenilworth corridors in Hennepin County, Minnesota. The Board should also stay the Hennepin County rail Authority's ("HCRRA") request in FD 36177 to acquire the common carrier obligations for the line.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Fiereck
Logistics Manager

By mail to the STB:

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Proceedings
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

By overnight delivery to the STB:

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Proceedings
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20006

Parties of Record:

Edward D. Greenberg
GKG Law, P.C.
1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20007

Charles A. Spitulnik
Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP
1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036

William A. Mullins
Baker & Miller PLLC
2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037

David F. Rifkind
Stinson Leonard Street LLP
1775 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006