

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

January 12, 2017

Chairman Daniel R. Elliott III
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Docket No. FD 34797

Chairman Elliott,

FD 34797 (Sub-No. 1)

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As the Surface Transportation Board (STB) begins the review process for the proposed New England Transrail (NET) project in Wilmington and Woburn, Massachusetts, we write to encourage the STB to give due consideration to the environmental and safety impacts of the proposed project. We understand that NET intends to use the roughly 50-acre Olin Chemical Superfund Site as a trans loading facility, which will offload materials from rail to truck raising additional environmental concerns for the surrounding community. The Olin Chemical site was added to the National Priorities List as a Superfund site in 2006, and under the direction of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been under the federal remediation process since that time.

Given the complexity of developing a Superfund site and the potential impact of the health and safety of surrounding communities, we encourage you to carefully consider the concerns of local and state stakeholders as you prepare the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the NET project. Specifically, we encourage you to thoroughly examine potential effects of the development on the Superfund site including previous remediation work, ongoing monitoring of the site, vehicular traffic and transport of potentially hazardous materials through Massachusetts communities.

As this process progresses, please keep us apprised of any developments. Feel free to contact Kate Machet in Senator Markey's office (kate_machet@markey.senate.gov or 617-565-8519), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress