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Director Lucille Marvin
Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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Public Record

Dear Director Marvin:

I am writing to urge the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to establish a public comment period and conduct a thorough analysis of Metropolitan Council's efforts to acquire ownership of the Bass Lake and Kenilworth corridors in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

Many of my constituents rely on the Twin Cities & Western Railroad Company (TC&W) for rail access to the Twin Cities in order to connect with major Class I carriers including BNSF, Canadian Pacific, and Union Pacific. These shippers are concerned that Metropolitan Council's plans to remove freight side tracks in favor of light rail passenger tracks along the Bass Lake and Kenilworth freight rail corridor could negatively impact TC&W's ability to provide efficient rail service.

The light rail project is complicated and impacts freight rail commerce. It is important that the STB not take expeditious action without providing the public with a full and thorough opportunity to voice their concerns. STB needs to carefully consider the long-term needs of TC&W and its shippers preserve their ability to operate effectively.

Sincerely,



Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress

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