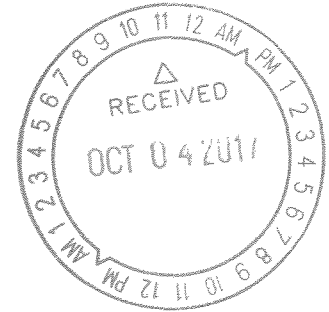




October 3, 2017

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman, Acting Chairman
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20423

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The Honorable Daniel R. Elliott III, Vice Chairman
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20423

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The Honorable Deb Miller, Member
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: EP 742 Public Listening Session Regarding CSX Transportation, Inc.'s Rail Service Issues

To the leadership of the United States Surface Transportation Board,

Wayne Farms LLC completed construction and began operation in February of this year of the largest start-up feed mill in the United States poultry industry at Ozark, Alabama. The Ozark mill has a production capability of 25,000 tons per week, a 25% increase over our former total production capability at our south Alabama complex. We shuttered three smaller feed mills in order to build this state of the art "super mill", the only potential challenge being that our total flock would be reliant on feed production from one mill instead of three. Wayne Farms invested in this expansion in large part due to our long standing partnership with CSXT and our confidence in their performance.

For the past several months we have been hyper-sensitive to the recent challenges presented by the evolution toward precision scheduled railroading. Our local and corporate management have been in daily contact with the CSX local, unit train and sales and marketing management team to insure that our pipelines are moving expeditiously. We not only utilize a corn train per week but



also more than fifty single soft stock cars each week, volume that necessitates utmost efficiency. I cannot say that there have not been some challenging situations that have arisen, but the positive news is that the CSX as a whole has been very responsive and dedicated to providing a seamless supply chain for Wayne Farms. Our demurrage at Ozark has been minimal and we have had no production time lost due to lack of rail ingredients at any time.

The strength of any organization is in its personnel and the CSX team has risen to the challenge of the recent operational changes. Most importantly, communication has been consistent and proactive from the local level to senior management. CSX represents a united front to provide us the reliable service that we expect and Wayne Farms is very satisfied and grateful for our partnership.

Respectfully yours,

Glenn B. Smith
Director, Feed Ingredient Procurement
Wayne Farms LLC
4110 Continental Drive
Oakwood, GA 30566