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

Subject: CSX Railroad Service, EP 742

Dear Ms. Begeman:

TMK IPSCO is a leading global manufacturer of steel pipe for the oil and gas industry. Our facility at Wilder, Kentucky has the capacity to produce over half a million tons of product annually. TMK IPSCO has had a long and positive working relationship with CSX at our Wilder facility.

In the second quarter of this year we experienced a severe drop in performance and reliability of CSX. During this time, we saw delays in local yard switching of inbound coil steel cars, as well as unsatisfactory availability of empty cars for outbound shipment of product to our customers. These service failures were extremely disruptive to our business and even caused downtime at the Wilder plant.

Now, as we near the end of the third quarter, CSX has made noticeable improvements. These improvements began in August and have continued through September. Switches are now occurring as planned, and car supply continues to improve. Communication between CSX's local management at the yard level and TMK IPSCO at the plant level is now occurring on a regular basis, and we feel that the CSX local management is committed to serving us.

Based on what we have seen, we are optimistic that these improvements will continue into the fourth quarter. TMK IPSCO's Wilder operation sees real growth opportunities in the pipe energy sector and we need CSX to be operating at its very best to capitalize on this business.

Yours truly,

Stephen W. Fulton

General Manager Shipping and Logistics