

R. W. Griffin  
Feed, Seed & Fertilizer, Inc.

213344

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February 16, 2005

Hon. Vernon Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

FD 34662  
ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
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Public Record



Dear Hon. Williams,

Our company has been informed that the District of Columbia passed an emergency ordinance entitled the (Terrorism Prevention in Hazardous Materials Transportation Act of 2005) banning the transportation of hazardous materials through the district. The ban includes explosives, flammable gases, poisonous gases, and poisonous materials. The ordinance will become effective as soon as the Mayor of Washington D.C. signs it. We are concerned that other cities and municipalities may consider similar laws in the near future. This would be devastating to our company and the entire industry.

On February 7, 2005, CSXT filed a petition with the US Surface Transportation Board asking it to rule the ordinance is preempted by federal law. On February 8, 2005, the Surface Transportation Board issued an order inviting written comments to be received no later than Wednesday, February 16 from DC and "other interested persons" on CSXT's petition to declare the DC Hazmat legislation invalid.

Please consider the impact this ordinance could have, not only on our industry, but on the entire nation. We respectfully request that you declare the ordinance unenforceable on the grounds that it is preempted by Federal law.

Sincerely,

R. G. Register

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Chief Operating Officer  
R. W. Griffin Feed, Seed & Fertilizer, Inc.

Cc Mike Marlow - CSXT