



Office of the Chairman

**Surface Transportation Board**  
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

August 19, 2014

Mr. Jack Hellman  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Genesee & Wyoming Inc.  
20 West Avenue  
Darien, CT 06820

Re: Railroad Service Outlook Fall 2014

Dear Jack:

The Surface Transportation Board is again asking Class I railroads to provide assessments of their ability to meet expected rail service demands during the traditional “fall peak” period. The last year has been challenging for the Nation’s freight rail network due to a combination of volume, capacity, equipment and weather related issues.

Grain transportation has been particularly affected throughout the northern mid-section of the country and remains a focus of the Board. I appreciate Genesee & Wyoming’s updates to the Board regarding its efforts to address rail service problems in South Dakota. Although Genesee & Wyoming (G&W) does not own a Class I railroad, I am requesting that G&W provide to the Board its general outlook and plans through the remainder of 2014 as well as for the following winter season.

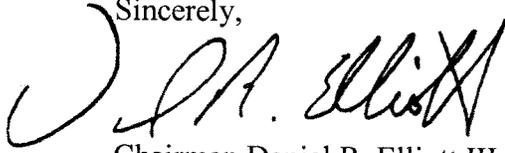
In your response, please include:

- Expectations for any seasonal or other projected peaks in rail traffic and the actions your railroads will take to prepare for those peaks, including a discussion of freight car, locomotive, and crew availability.
- A description of any geographic areas and/or commodities for which you anticipate particular challenges in meeting customer service expectations. Nationwide, rail shippers are expressing specific concern over movement of grain, ethanol, coal, crude oil, propane, and automotive traffic. Please include and discuss your progress and plans for the movement of grain on G&W’s Rapid City, Pierre and Eastern.
- A summary of the investments in freight service and capacity improvements year-to-date and planned for the full year. Please include a discussion of any technology and business process improvements that have the potential to improve

network fluidity and resilience in the face of protracted severe winter weather conditions.

The Board has announced that it will hold a hearing on September 4 in Fargo, N.D. to address continuing rail service issues. I request that you respond to this letter following the hearing, by September 15, 2014. As has been the case in the past, the Board intends to make your response public. I look forward to your response and to continuing to work together to ensure that the shipping public has efficient and reliable rail service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.R. Elliott III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "R".

Chairman Daniel R. Elliott III

cc: The Honorable Deb Miller, Vice Chairman  
The Honorable Ann D. Begeman, Commissioner