



The Greenbrier Companies, Inc.

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September 16, 2016

Hon. Rod Runyon, Commission Chair,
and Hon. Commissioners Steve Kramer and Scott Hege
Board of County Commissioners
511 Washington St, Suite 302
The Dalles, OR 97058

Dear Commission Chair Runyon and Commissioners,

The Greenbrier Companies, Inc. strongly supports Union Pacific's infrastructure improvement project, the Mosier Double Track. As a leading designer and builder of railcars headquartered in Oregon, we understand the importance of this project. The roughly four mile rail improvement project allows two trains to pass one another on parallel tracks without stopping on a rail siding. This investment creates a safe and efficient passing lane for trains bringing greater safety and friendlier rail operations to Mosier residents and others in Oregon.

Union Pacific's existing Mosier rail siding is too short for passing trains. Without a new line of track in Mosier, Union Pacific will be unable to move trains efficiently in the Pacific Northwest (PNW). This project alleviates the pressure for domestic intermodal, grain, automotive, lumber and many other commodities UP moves for its customers in the PNW, often using Greenbrier railcars. The project is not designed to increase the transport of oil, coal or any other specific commodity.

Building a double track brings Mosier and the PNW significant benefits. It reduces train noise and emissions from idling locomotives, eliminates the need to hold and meet trains on the existing rail siding and reduces horn blowing from trains moving past stationary trains parked in the siding. Most importantly, a double track will enhance the movement of Oregon products to market by means of the safest, most environmentally friendly mode of surface freight transportation.

Union Pacific moves a vast array of commodities through Oregon daily. Typically, 20-25 trains move through this area each day. This project allows safer, more efficient, transport of goods through the Gorge. Moreover, unlike trucks, barges, and airlines, America's privately-owned freight railroads operate almost exclusively on infrastructure that they own, build, maintain, and pay for themselves. America's demand for safe, affordable, and environmentally responsible freight transportation is only growing. Railroads are the best answer to this demand. Since 1980, America's freight railroads have spent more than \$600 billion of private investment, including record amounts in recent years, to improve and grow the greatest freight rail network in the world. UP wants to continue this progress in Mosier.

The Mosier Double Track project is required to support the needs of current freight rail users and will eliminate the most significant operational bottleneck in the PNW.

Thank you for your consideration of this important regional infrastructure improvement project. Greenbrier urges your strong support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Isselmann".

Jack Isselmann
Senior Vice President, External Affairs & Programs