



James Tylick
AVP Passenger Operations

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December 20, 2023

Sharon Humphreys
Director Engineering and Construction
San Diego Association of Governments
401 B Street Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Ms. Humphreys:

For more than 140 years, BNSF and its predecessor railroads have operated freight rail service and supported passenger rail service to and from San Diego, California. The San Diego Subdivision is a critical link in BNSF's transcontinental network.

The San Diego Subdivision is identified as part of the United States Department of Defense Strategic Rail Corridor Network (STRACNET), linking military bases on the West Coast to the rest of the North American rail network. In addition to military shipments, the San Diego Subdivision is an essential corridor for freight rail transportation and supply chains with multiple freight trains a day utilizing the San Diego Subdivision. The San Diego Subdivision is also vital for passenger rail travel, including intercity Amtrak/LOSSAN and commuter passenger trains.

The Surface Transportation Board ("STB") is the federal agency that is the primary regulator for freight rail in the United States. BNSF's common carrier rail operation over the San Diego Subdivision is governed by the STB's authority, and BNSF cannot abandon or discontinue such operation without the STB's prior approval. BNSF values the transportation services we provide our freight customers along the San Diego Subdivision and has an obligation to provide rates and service over the line to protect the public from unnecessary discontinuance, cessation, interruption, or obstruction of rail service.

BNSF appreciates our relationship with SANDAG and other stakeholders in California that depend upon freight and passenger rail transportation along the San Diego Subdivision. Rail provides important environmental benefits to the region and state. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Tylick".

James Tylick
AVP Passenger Operations

CC: French Thompson, BNSF Railway
CC: James Campbell, LOSSAN
CC: Jim Blair, Amtrak