



EI-1432 CG

City of Sikeston

PO 34600

March 15, 2005

Mr. Chris Peterson
Director Government Affairs
Union Pacific Railroad
1400 Douglas Street, STOP 1560
Omaha, NE 68179

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I appreciate you and Michael Payette meeting with Ed Throop, John Chittenden and myself on Thursday, March 10th.

From our conversation, I understand the following:

1. Within the next few days, the Union Pacific Railroad anticipates filing an application with the Surface Transportation Board that will allow the exchange of trackage between Union Pacific-Burlington Northern that has been under discussion since our last meeting in June 2004. A successful application will increase southbound train traffic on the Burlington Northern line by approximately 12 trains per day.
2. Part of the Surface Transportation Board's process will be the review of transportation and environmental concerns regarding the increase in traffic.
3. The Union Pacific is prepared to discuss upgrades to crossings that will allow the town to have a "quiet zone" designation. The Union Pacific may want one crossing closed, but in return, would pay for all improvements (i.e. gates/flashes) necessary to create a "quiet zone".
4. Ed Throop of the Board of Municipal Utilities made it clear that he was concerned about timely coal deliveries to the power plant, and Union Pacific was to present a letter to Ed stating that the line exchange/dispatch change would not delay the delivery of coal as needed.



5. Upon request of the City, the Union Pacific will work to void leaves along the Union Pacific right of way.
6. Union Pacific want to explore a 2-month temporary re-route of trains through the power plant this summer. The re-route plan will be similar to the two-week re-route of Summer 2004. The re-route will allow Union Pacific to provide maintenance upgrades to their line in Stoddard County.
7. Union Pacific will offer a letter to the City to acquire property where there currently is a lift station that will be relocated at Union Pacific's expense.
8. Union Pacific officials will meet with City staff/officials in the near future to discuss concerns of Public Safety.
9. Union Pacific anticipates the Surface Transportation Board review to take 3-4 months. Union Pacific does not anticipate final action of the Surface Transportation Board prior to January 1, 2006. If approval is granted, the traffic increase would be effective in the Spring of 2006.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at my office.

Sincerely,



Doug Friend, Manager
City of Sikeston

DF/rc

Cc: Michael Payette, Asst. V.P., Union Pacific Railroad
Kenneth Blodgett, E.P.S., Surface Transportation Board
Mayor & Council Members
Ed Throop, Board of Municipal Utilities