

THOMAS E. PETRI  
6TH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

2462 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4806  
(202) 225-2476

6TH DISTRICT OFFICES

FOND DU LAC, WI  
(920) 922-1160

OSHKOSH, WI  
(920) 231-6333

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4906

December 21, 2011

Ms. Karen V. Gregory  
Secretary  
Federal Maritime Commission  
800 North Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20573-0001

Subject: Docket No. 11-19, *U.S. Containerized Cargo Flows - Response to NOI*

Dear Madam Secretary:

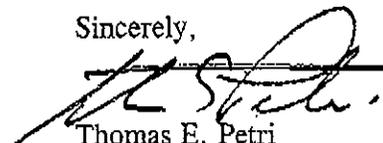
I am writing in response to the Federal Maritime Commission's Notice of Inquiry on factors that may cause or contribute to the shift of cargo destined for the U.S. inland from U.S. to Canadian and Mexican seaports. I understand that several organizations in my district and the state, including the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, the Fond du Lac Chamber of Commerce and the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, have also submitted comments on this matter.

As you may know, numerous companies in my district decide to ship by rail through Canadian ports after a careful, cost-effective analysis, looking at the most efficient and profitable option. Oftentimes, Canadian shipping lanes and ports provide the best fit for these businesses. Access to both U.S. and Canadian ports on the West Coast is necessary for these companies to receive materials for production and to reach their export markets.

Furthermore, companies in my district indicate that there would be hundreds of jobs in jeopardy should the FMC make recommendations that could restrict shipping choices and drive up costs. I believe it is important for local economies, as well as our national economy, to maintain all available shipping options in order to allow the most productive and profitable opportunities for businesses.

Again, the ability to choose from among a variety of North American ports for imports and exports is essential to the success of many businesses within my district and should be taken into consideration as the FMC conducts this review. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Petri  
Member of Congress

TEP:mm