



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman, Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published July 29, 2016, and the comment period closed September 27, 2016. The Department has received approximately 130 comments. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is currently drafting the final rule and Regulatory Impact Analysis, with assistance from the Federal Railroad Administration, and estimates that the rulemaking will be published in Fiscal Year 2018. The Department will continue to communicate to Congress as required by the FAST Act until a final rule is promulgated.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Elaine L. Chao", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman DeFazio:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Sincerely,

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Sincerely,

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Deb Fischer
Chair, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and
Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Fischer:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation
and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Peters:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Jeff Denham
Chairman, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines,
and Hazardous Materials
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Denham:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Sincerely,

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Michael E. Capuano
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines,
and Hazardous Materials
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Capuano:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Diaz-Balart:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable David E. Price
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Price:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Susan M. Collins
Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

This letter provides an update on the progress of the U.S. Department of Transportation's rulemaking titled "Hazardous Materials: Oil Spill Response Plans for High-Hazard Flammable Trains" (HM-251B), pursuant to Section 7307 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). This update reports departmental progress since the previous update of January 3, 2018.

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reed:

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Lowey:

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Elaine L. Chao



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

May 18, 2018

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

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