



COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Economic & Castle Airport Development Division

311907

Via Email

August 3, 2026
Mr. Alexander Dusenberry
Office of the Economist
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
Alexander.Dusenberry@stb.gov

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
August 7, 2026
Part of
Public Record

RE: **Waybill Request for Merced Freight Rail Study (Castle Rail Park / Castle Commerce Center)**

Dear Mr. Dusenberry:

The County of Merced is requesting user access to the Surface Transportation Board's Confidential Carload Waybill Sample data for the purpose of supporting Merced County's freight rail planning work at Castle Commerce Center (Castle Rail Park) in Atwater, California for:

- Merced County and
- DB E.C.O. North America, Inc., authorized consultant team supporting the Merced County project

This request supports the County of Merced's ongoing freight rail study and associated market assessment, which will evaluate commodity flows, rail traffic trends, and rail-served development opportunities at the Castle site. Merced County and its consultant team will use the Waybill Sample—the only source with the necessary commodity-level and detailed geographic data—to analyze rail traffic originating, terminating, and moving through California; assess trends in volumes, routings, and origins and destinations; and establish a baseline of existing and potential rail demand to inform near- and long-term planning and investment decisions for the Castle Commerce Center area.

Merced County is requesting the complete Waybill Sample with masked revenue for years 2015-2024 railroad traffic originating, terminating, or passing through the State of California. The parties listed above will respect the confidentiality of the Waybill Sample and agree to observe the STB conditions, including:

1. The "raw" Confidential Carload Waybill Sample data shall be made available only to those Merced County employees and authorized contractors who have a need for the data in conducting approved studies requiring the use of Waybill data.
2. The Waybill Sample data shall be used solely for the purposes requested.
3. None of the Carload Waybill data, or results generated from analyses thereof, will be released to the public unless it is in accordance with the requirements set forth by the STB, and has been reviewed and approved by the STB.

The specific staff that need access to the data are:

- Mark Mimms, Director of Community and Economic Development, County of Merced
- Tara Rodriguez, Staff Services Analyst II, County of Merced
- Andreas Aepli, Principal, DB E.C.O. North America Inc.
- Maurice Tourenq, Senior Consultant, DB E.C.O. North America Inc.
- Stanley Li, Consultant, DB E.C.O. North America Inc.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Director Mark Mimms at

Mark.Mimms@countyofmerced.com or (209) 385-7686 Ext. 4400.

Very truly yours,



Mark Mimms
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