



THE CHLORINE INSTITUTE, INC.
1300 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22209
Phone: 703-741-5760 Fax: 703-741-6068
<http://www.CL2.com>

HOLDING STATEMENT (FOR USE ON INQUIRY ONLY)

CHLORINE INSTITUTE RESPONSE TO UNION PACIFIC/SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD ACTIVITY REGARDING CHORINE SHIPMENTS

BACKGROUND: The Surface Transportation Board* (STB) has requested comments in response to a Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRC) petition filed Feb. 18, 2009, that would affect the chlorine industry's right to ship chlorine by rail. The UPRC asked the STP to permit the railroad to reject chlorine shipments through densely populated areas if the destinations could be supplied adequately with chlorine from sources closer to the same destinations.

In response to the UPRC petition, the Chlorine Institute, Inc., (CI) states the following, which may be attributed to CI President Arthur E. Dungan:

"The Chlorine Institute, Inc. (CI) objects strongly to this petition and on March 12, 2009, replied to the Surface Transportation Board detailing our specific objections. Allowing a railroad to effectively dictate the supply of and demand for chlorine simply cannot be tolerated. Rail is the safest mode of transportation for this material, which is essential to the nation's health, economy and security. The free market does and should determine where chlorine is produced and where it is consumed.

Of the 1.5 million chlorine rail shipments since 1965, there have been only 11 tank-car breaches. To the extent that safety and security concerns, based on appropriate analysis, should somehow restrict chlorine movement is a matter for Congress to decide; Congress has assigned this responsibility it to the Transportation Security Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration, not to the Surface Transportation Board or the Union Pacific Railroad. CI member companies are responsible for more than 98 percent of North American chlorine production. They rely on rail transportation to deliver three million tons of chlorine safely each year to customers to keep our water safe and to make products for the pharmaceutical, medical, communications, defense, transportation, agriculture, energy and hundreds of other industries that benefit virtually every aspect of American life."

###

(Note to Reporters: The Chlorine Institute's full reply to the STB is available by emailing CI's Frank Reiner, freiner@cl2.com.)

The Chlorine Institute, Inc. (CI) is a 220-member, not-for-profit trade association of chlor-alkali producers worldwide, as well as packagers, distributors, users, and suppliers. The Institute's mission is the promotion of safety and the protection of human health and the environment in the manufacture, distribution and use of chlorine, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide and sodium hypochlorite, plus the distribution and use of hydrogen chloride. The Institute's North American Producer members account for more than 98 percent of the total chlorine production capacity of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

(3/23/09)

*The Surface Transportation Board is affiliated with the U.S. Department of Transportation, although it is "decisionally independent," according to the STB Web site.