

Phillip J. Qualy  
Legislative Director,  
Chairperson

Daniel M. Paradise  
Assistant Director

Brian L. Hunstad  
Secretary

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**Minnesota Legislative Board**  
A Division of SMART, Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transit Union



Labor and Professional Centre  
411 Main Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
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UTUMNLEGBD@VISI.COM

December 2, 2013

Mr. Thomas Albanese  
General Manager, Twin Cities Division  
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway  
80 East 44<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55421

VIA: U. S. Mail.

RE BNSF: Winter Action Plan 2013-2014, Snow Removal and Yard Maintenance.

Dear Mr. Albanese,

With the winter season upon our railroads in Minnesota, I want to assure that Burlington Northern Santa Fed Railway (BNSF) has reviewed your system action plan for timely snow removal and winter maintenance on your railroad.

As you know, our membership works within safety sensitive areas on track, switches, mainlines, and at industries and crew change locations. It is essential that snow and ice removal, switch cleaning and lubrication, with the sanding of walkway and roads occur as soon as possible after a snow or ice event. I trust that BNSF will retain and employ adequate maintenance of way workers to assure the safe operation of the railroad.

I request your staff's attention to this area of safety concern. We look forward to improved snow removal and winter maintenance over performance levels last winter and in previous years. We look forward to improved winter safety on the BNSF Railway.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

P. J. Qualy  
Minnesota Legislative Director  
United Transportation Union-SMART

**Mr. Thomas Albanese**

**December 2, 2013**

**Page two.**

**cc: Mr. Joseph Nigro, UTU-SMART International President  
Mr. John Prevesich, UTU-SMART Transportation President  
Mr. James Stem, UTU-SMART National Legislative Director  
UTU-SMART General Chairmen, BNSF/GN, NP, and CB&Q Committees.  
Mr. Craig Peachy, UTU-SMART Wisconsin State Director  
UTU Legislative Representatives, Locals 281, 832, 1000, 1175, 1177.**

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December 2, 2013

Mr. Robert Johnson  
Vice President, U.S. Operations  
Canadian Pacific Railway  
120 South Sixth Street Ste. 1000  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

VIA: U. S. Mail.

**RE CP Railway: Winter Action Plan 2013-2014, Snow Removal and Yard Maintenance.**

Dear Mr. Johnson,

With the winter season upon our railroads in Minnesota, I want to assure that Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) has reviewed your system action plan for timely snow removal and winter maintenance on your railroad.

As you know, our membership works within safety sensitive areas on track, switches, industry, mainlines, and at crew change locations. It is essential that snow and ice removal, switch cleaning and lubrication, with the sanding of walkway and roads occur as soon as possible after a snow or ice event. I trust that CP will employ adequate maintenance of way workers to assure the safe operation of the railroad.

Of further concern, it is my understanding that the CP Safety Committee and Safety Advisory Committee is not meeting nor functioning as designed. As reported, the carrier has arbitrarily limited local participation from this organization and CP's Winter Action Plan has not been reviewed. I request your staff's attention to this area of safety concern.

We look forward to improved snow removal and winter maintenance over performance levels last winter and in previous years. We look forward to improved safety and workplace culture on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
P. J. Qualy  
Minnesota Legislative Director  
United Transportation Union-SMART

**cc: Mr. Joseph Nigro, UTU-SMART International President  
Mr. John Prevesich, UTU-SMART Transportation President  
Mr. James Stem, UTU-SMART National Legislative Director  
Mr. David Wier, UTU-SMART International Vice President  
Mr. Jim Nelson, UTU-SMART General Chairman, CP/Soo-Milwaukee Lines  
Mr. Craig Peachy, UTU-SMART Wisconsin State Director  
UTU Legislative Representatives, Locals 64, 281, 832 and 911.**

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December 2, 2013

Mr. Derek Taylor  
General Manager, North Division  
CN - Southern Region  
Two Harrison Street  
North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

VIA: U. S. Mail.

RE CN: Winter Action Plan 2013-2014, Snow Removal and Yard Maintenance.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

With the winter season upon our railroads in Minnesota, I want to assure that CN Railway (CN) has reviewed your system action plan for timely snow removal and winter maintenance on your railroad.

As you know, our membership works within safety sensitive areas on track, switches, mainlines, and at industries and crew change locations. It is essential that snow and ice removal, switch cleaning and lubrication, with the sanding of walkway and roads occur as soon as possible after a snow or ice event. I trust that CN will retain and employ adequate maintenance of way workers to assure the safe operation of the railroad.

As reported, I am concerned that CN Safety Committee meetings for the Proctor and Pokegama Terminal have not been well attended by carrier management. Further, progress on longstanding and identified safety issues are not moving forward to satisfactory resolution. I request your overview to these specific areas of safety concern.

We look forward to improved snow removal and winter maintenance over performance levels last winter and in previous years. We look forward to improved winter safety on the CN Railway. Thank you.

Sincerely,

P. J. Qualy  
Minnesota Legislative Director  
United Transportation Union-SMART

Mr. Derek Taylor  
December 2, 2013  
Page two.

cc: Mr. Joseph Nigro, UTU-SMART International President  
Mr. John Prevesich, UTU-SMART Transportation President  
Mr. James Stem, UTU-SMART National Legislative Director  
Mr. Ken Flashberger, UTU-SMART General Chairmen,  
Mr. Craig Peachy, UTU-SMART Wisconsin State Director  
UTU Legislative Representatives, Locals 831, 1067, 1292.

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UTUMNLEGBD@VISL.COM

December 2, 2013

Mr. Paul Hinton  
TCSU Division Superintendent  
Union Pacific Railway  
206 Eaton Street  
St. Paul, MN 55107

VIA: U. S. Mail.

RE UPRR: Winter Action Plan 2013-2014, Snow Removal and Yard Maintenance.

Dear Mr. Hinton,

With the winter season upon our railroads in Minnesota, I want to assure that Union Pacific Railway (UPRR) has reviewed your system action plan for timely snow removal and winter maintenance on your railroad.

As you know, our membership works within safety sensitive areas on track, switches, mainlines, and at industries and crew change locations. It is essential that snow and ice removal, switch cleaning and lubrication, with the sanding of walkway and roads occur as soon as possible after a snow or ice event. I trust that UPRR will retain and employ adequate maintenance of way workers to assure the safe operation of the railroad.

We look forward to improved snow removal and winter maintenance over performance levels last winter and in previous years. We look forward to improved winter safety on the Union Pacific Railway. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. J. Qualy". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

P. J. Qualy  
Minnesota Legislative Director  
United Transportation Union-SMART

Mr. Paul Hinton  
December 2, 2013  
Page two.

cc: Mr. Joseph Nigro, UTU-SMART International President  
Mr. John Previsich, UTU-SMART Transportation President  
Mr. James Stem, UTU-SMART National Legislative Director  
Mr. Mike Reedy, UTU-SMART General Chairman, UP/C&NW Lines GCA  
Mr. Craig Peachy, UTU-SMART Wisconsin State Director  
UTU Legislative Representatives, Locals 650, 1293, 1614.



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December 2, 2013

Mr. Daniel Zink  
Director of Operations  
Red River Valley & Western Railroad  
116 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street Ste. 203  
Wahpeton, ND 58074

VIA: U. S. Mail.

RE RRV&W: Winter Action Plan 2013-2014, Snow Removal and Yard Maintenance.

Dear Mr. Zink,

With the winter season upon our railroads in Minnesota, I want to assure that the Red River Valley & Western Railway (RRV&W) has reviewed your system action plan for timely snow removal and winter maintenance on your railroad.

As you know, our membership works within safety sensitive areas on track, switches, mainlines, and at industries and crew change locations. It is essential that snow and ice removal, switch cleaning and lubrication, with the sanding of walkway and roads occur as soon as possible after a snow or ice event. I trust that RRV&W will retain and employ adequate maintenance of way workers to assure the safe operation of the railroad.

We look forward to improved snow removal and winter maintenance over performance levels last winter and in previous years. We look forward to improved winter safety on the Red River Valley & Western Railway. Thank you.

Sincerely,

P. J. Qualy  
Minnesota Legislative Director  
United Transportation Union-SMART

Mr. Daniel Zink  
December 2, 2013  
Page two.

cc: Mr. Joseph Nigro, UTU-SMART International President  
Mr. John Previsich, UTU-SMART Transportation President  
Mr. James Stem, UTU-SMART National Legislative Director  
UTU-SMART General Committees of Adjustment  
Mr. Jim Chase, UTU-SMART North Dakota State Director  
UTU Legislative Representatives, Local 1137.