

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Grain Car Council

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Surface Transportation Board		2025	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
National Grain Car Council		1953	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	09/20/2023	09/20/2025	
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date	
No	Agency Determination		
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
11. Establishment Authority	Agency Authority		
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
Establishment of National Grain Car Council, Ex Parte 519 (Sub-No. 1), 59 Fed. Reg. 60828, 64433	12/29/1995	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board			
16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
17a. Open	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	Other Activities
0	0	0	0
17d. Total 0			
Meetings and Dates			
No Meetings			

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The National Grain Car Council (NGCC or Council) functions under the auspices of the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to address grain car supply and grain transportation issues. The STB has statutory authority to ensure that rail carriers provide adequate service and car supply to meet the demands of customers. However, the

STB believes that these goals can be advanced when shippers and receivers, railroads, and car owners and suppliers work together to craft market-based solutions. Through the NGCC, these private parties come together for discussions that facilitate private sector solutions to ensure that rail carriers provide the facilities and equipment necessary to reasonably meet demand. Because grain is a major commodity for domestic and export markets, and is a major source of revenue for the railroads, members are encouraged to find workable solutions for improving grain car supply and utilization. Promoting a full understanding of the issues that each membership sector faces enhances the opportunity for reaching private sector solutions.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The NGCC consists of approximately 40 voting members, (excluding governmental representatives). The balanced is based on the representation of executives knowledgeable in the transportation of grain, including no fewer than 12 members from the Class I railroads (one marketing and one car management representative from each Class I), 7 representatives from Class II and III carriers, 14 representatives from grain shippers and receivers, and 7 representatives from private car owners and car manufacturers. All voting members of the Committee, as described in this subsection shall serve on the Committee in a representative capacity on behalf of their respective industry or stakeholder group. The members of the Board shall serve as ex officio (non-voting) members of the Council, and they serve as regular government employees. The Committee members will consist of representatives, regular government

employees, and, in some circumstances, special government employees.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The NGCC charter directs that the committee to meet no less than once a year. Because of the cyclical nature of the demand for grain transportation, the timing of the annual meeting is intended to predate the anticipated peak demand period by several weeks to ensure that the industry is prepared to address demand issues as well as potential problems. The NGCC provides a forum for grain-transportation stakeholders to discuss and resolve potential problems concerning rail transportation of grain. The annual meeting is typically held at a location in the Midwestern United States rather than in Washington, DC to maximize public participation by industry stakeholders.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Congress has long emphasized the need to reduce the regulatory burden. The NGCC serves that purpose by allowing the parties involved in the transportation of grain to engage in discussions that may lead to private sector solutions.

Historically, the agency has been called upon to address car-supply issues through hearings and regulatory decisions. However, the forum established by the creation of the NGCC allows grain-transportation stakeholders to resolve certain important issues with minimal public and private cost. The NGCC continues to have the active support of the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service and Transportation Services Divisions, as well as the support of the STB.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

The annual meetings consist of short verbal presentations by members on the preparedness of their companies for the upcoming major grain harvest and/or presentations by knowledgeable speakers pertaining to the upcoming harvest. STB Board Members in attendance receive these updates and can then better anticipate rail-car supply and rail-service problems, before they happen each year. No written reports, other than meeting minutes, are typically generated. The following Council members had terms set to expire on August 20, 2024, but they resigned during FY 2023: Dustin Buntrick; Lindsey Fisher; Michael Haeg; Ryan Leonard; and Charley Moore.

Designated Federal Officer

Alan L Cassiday Engineer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Aaland, Taylor	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	Agtegra	Representative Member
Alexander, Deb	08/25/2021	08/13/2025	Genesee & Wyoming	Representative Member
Anderson, Keith	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	Wells Fargo Rail	Representative Member
Berrett, Shane	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	Viterra USA Ag Holdings	Representative Member
Boehme, Zachary	08/24/2024	08/23/2026	WATCO Companies	Representative Member
Branch, Matt	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	Chicago Freight Car Leasing Co.	Representative Member
Brummer, Wyatt	08/31/2018	08/23/2026	Scoular	Representative Member
Cauley, Justin	08/25/2021	08/13/2025	CHS Inc.	Representative Member
Chanmbers, Mark	08/25/2021	08/13/2025	Perdue AgriBusiness	Representative Member
Chism, Lindsey	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	Norfolk-Southern	Representative Member
Deboer, Daniel	08/24/2022	08/23/2026	CSX	Representative Member

Evans, Carrie	09/01/2012	08/23/2026	Iowa Interstate Railroad	Representative Member
Ewers, Steve	08/25/2021	08/13/2025	Norfolk Southern	Representative Member
Fallis, Jared	08/24/2024	08/23/2026	Canadian National	Representative Member
Fuchs, Patrick	01/02/2019	01/14/2029	Board Member, US Surface Transportation Board	Ex Officio Member
Germain, Anthony	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	The Greenbrier Companies	Representative Member
Glynn, John	09/01/2013	08/13/2025	CIT Rail	Representative Member
Groskreutz, Brian	09/01/2013	08/13/2025	Ag Valley Coop	Representative Member
Gutierrez, Chad	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	Rio Grande Pacific Corporation	Representative Member
Hansen, Dana	09/01/2014	08/23/2026	Archer Daniels Midland	Representative Member
Harman, Jon	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	Canadian Pacific Kansas City	Representative Member
Hedlund, Karen	01/03/2022	12/31/2025	Vice-Chairman, US Surface Transportation Board	Ex Officio Member
Herl, E.	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	Grain Craft	Representative Member
Homan, Amy	08/24/2022	08/23/2026	Iowa Northern Railway	Representative Member
Huston, Mark	09/01/2011	08/13/2025	Louis Dreyfus Company	Representative Member
Johnson, Ted	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	CSX	Representative Member
Johnson, Wayne	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	Ag Processing Inc.	Representative Member
Lautenschlager, Brock	08/24/2022	08/23/2026	Cargill Inc.	Representative Member
Long, Dave	08/25/2021	08/13/2025	Twin Cities & Western Railroad	Representative Member
McDermott, Terry	09/01/2015	08/13/2025	Bunge North America	Representative Member
Murphy, Kira	08/24/2022	08/23/2026	Canadian Pacific Kansas City	Representative Member
Primus, Robert	01/07/2021	12/31/2027	Member, US Surface Transportation Board	Ex Officio Member
Przednowek, David	09/01/2016	08/23/2026	Canadian National	Representative Member
Rokas, Georgia	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	TrinityRail	Representative Member
Roskilly, Zac	08/14/2023	08/13/2025	BNSF	Representative Member
Schultz, Michelle	01/11/2021	01/11/2026	Member, US Surface Transportation Board	Ex Officio Member
Thomas, Jacob	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	Union Pacific	Representative Member

Trentadue, Ross	08/31/2019	08/13/2025	Zen-Noh Grain Corp.	Representative Member
White, Matt	08/24/2024	08/23/2026	BNSF	Representative Member
Williams, Tyler	08/24/2022	08/23/2026	Tyson Foods, Inc.	Representative Member
Zmudka, Rob	08/31/2021	08/13/2025	GATX Corporation	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 41

Narrative Description

Among the goals of the Surface Transportation Board is the promotion of efficient rail transportation. The NGCC provides a forum in which grain-transportation stakeholders can address issues and problems related to the rail transportation of grain.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The council supplies the STB with critical information about U.S. grain markets and the ability of the U.S. railroad system to meet demand.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

N/A

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

0

Number of Recommendations Comments

NGCC verbally identifies problems and facilitates private sector solutions through the discussions at its annual meeting.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

N/A

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

N/A

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

N/A

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Action Comments

N/A

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

N/A