ACC WELCOMES PROPOSED CHANGES TO FREIGHT RAIL POLICIES

WASHINGTON (September 13, 2019) – The Surface Transportation Board (STB) just released a series of new initiatives to improve its process for reviewing freight rail rates. The announcements follow the release of a report by the STB’s Rate Reform Task Force that found that the Board’s decades-old rate review procedures are unworkable and have failed to address the negative impacts of massive changes within the freight rail industry.

The American Chemistry Council’s President & CEO Cal Dooley issued the following statement regarding the STB’s announcement:

“We applaud the members of the STB for their thoughtful leadership and commitment to getting our nation’s freight rail policies back on track. Chemical manufacturers across the country have been negatively impacted by excessive freight rail charges and lack of competitive rail service for too long.

“The Board’s proposed reforms are a positive step toward improving how the STB addresses freight rail problems, and we look forward to working with the commissioners and their staff on modernizing and streamlining outdated regulations.”

# # #

http://www.americanchemistry.com

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people’s lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®; common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues; and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a $553 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation’s economy. It is among the largest exporters in the nation, accounting for ten percent of all U.S. goods exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation’s critical infrastructure.