

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FINANCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

May 22, 2023

Tracy Robinson
President and CEO
Canadian National Railway Company
935 de La Gauchetière Street West
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Ms. Robinson:

I hear from Ohioans across the state who are concerned that old and dilapidated rail infrastructure poses a threat to local economies and to residents' safety. In too many cases, Class I railroads have failed to properly maintain and repair the bridges and other infrastructure they own in Ohio, leaving local communities to deal with the consequences and bear the costs.

First, I am requesting a comprehensive list of all Ohio rail bridges owned or maintained by your company.

Second, I request that this comprehensive list include your company's assessment of each bridge's condition. This assessment should not be limited to an assertion that a bridge is "structurally sound." Please provide a complete assessment of any damage or deterioration identified for an individual bridge, including damaged or falling concrete, temporary repair measures, measures employed to prevent concrete or other building materials from falling onto roads or waterways, and any other site conditions that negatively affect the community, including drainage issues, unrepaired lighting or sidewalks or graffiti.

Third, note in the comprehensive list every bridge in Ohio that has a problem that a government entity, elected official, or community representative has asked to be addressed by your respective railroads.

Finally, I am requesting a specifically-tailored action plan for any structurally-unsound bridge or any bridge that, while structurally-sound, may cause harm to the public due to its state of disrepair.

Your company is responsible for this infrastructure, and your company has a duty to proactively invest a fair share of revenues into properly maintaining tracks and bridges within the local communities that host your trains. Structural integrity is vital – but is not sufficient. Decaying,

decrepit bridges remain a threat to local communities. Anything less than full repair of all of your infrastructure in Ohio communities is insufficient.

I expect your full report as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sherrod Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator