



21 August 2020

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H3

RE: Reference Number 80100 – CN Milton Logistics Hub

Dear Minister Wilkinson and Agency Chair,

The Shipping Federation of Canada supports the CN Milton Logistics Hub. This project will provide additional intermodal facility capacity, which is badly needed in southern Ontario. We participated in the public hearings last summer and previously wrote to the review panel in September 2017.

The Shipping Federation of Canada, incorporated by an Act of Parliament in 1903, is the voice of the owners, operators and agents of ocean ships trading at ports across Canada, from the Atlantic to the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes to the Arctic and West Coast. Our members are extensively involved in all of the international shipping markets, whether as the owners or Canadian representatives of ships that carry major commodities such as grain, coal and forest products from Canadian ports to export markets overseas, or as the operators of container shipping lines that serve Canadian ports by delivering intermodal containers to and from the rest of the world. By virtue of the nature of the supply chain, our members are major customers of Canadian railways. These railway networks, including CN's network, enable our members to move goods quickly and reliably across the country in an environmentally sound manner, making their efficient operation critical to our members' success. As such, our members have had firsthand experience with the impacts caused by congestion in the transportation networks of southern Ontario. These instances directly affect the ability of our members to ship goods reliably through the region, which subsequently affects their ability to offer customers guaranteed on-time delivery of cargo in support of the Canadian economy.

SHIPPING FEDERATION OF CANADA

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We have a strong interest in ensuring a robust, well-structured Canadian transportation system that is fully equipped to channel Canada's current and future trade volumes in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible and are therefore strong proponents of the Milton Logistics Hub. When used effectively, intermodal transportation can lower inventories, create jobs and reduce environmental impacts. However, bottlenecks in the intermodal supply chain have the opposite effect, in the form of product shortages and the need to use more trucks to make up for delays. The Milton Logistics Hub is a comprehensive solution to the problem of inadequate capacity in southern Ontario and it represents a significant investment in the success of the Canadian economy.

As Canada is looking to recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19, the government will be seeking ways to bolster the flow of Canadian goods to international markets. The Milton Logistics Hub project is a significant step in the right direction. We join with other voices requesting that conditions being considered by the Agency not delay the construction of this vital infrastructure or adversely impact the much-needed efficiency gains for this intermodal hub.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input once again on this important project.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Broad". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Broad
President
SHIPPING FEDERATION OF CANADA