

## **National Freight Railroads Bargaining Update**

**October 20, 2011**

### **Presidential Emergency Board Holds Hearings**

#### **Recommendation Report Due By November 7th**

The Presidential Emergency Board (PEB) appointed by President Obama earlier this month to hold hearings on our contract dispute with the railroads and to make recommendations toward settlement concluded its hearings today. The Board began hearings last Thursday morning with opening arguments by both sides. The railroads presented their case Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. The hearings were recessed for the weekend and reconvened Monday, with Rail Labor presenting their case this Monday and Tuesday. Rebuttals were heard on Wednesday, with closing arguments this morning, followed by adjournment of the Board. The Board, absent a request for an extension, should issue its findings by November 7<sup>th</sup>, at which time another 30 day cooling off period will commence.

We will keep continue to keep you apprised as this situation progresses.