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February 3, 2023

Alex Beckmann
Legislative Representative
Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO
815 Black Lives Matter Plaza, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Alex:

Thank you for inviting me to the rail labor rally in Minneapolis on behalf of Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees. I regret that I am unable to join you in person today, but I want to express my solidarity and support for BMWED workers at Canadian Pacific as you as you gather to raise awareness about their lack of a current contract.

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employee Division workers build, maintain, repair, and inspect the tracks, bridges, buildings, and facilities our railroads – and Canadian Pacific Railway – depend on. The fact that the company has yet to reach a contract with these workers is a disservice to rail workers. These rail workers deserve certainty and fair compensation and benefits for their demanding and often dangerous work. Communities across Minnesota and our nation rely on timely deliveries of groceries, medications, safe drinking water, and other vital goods. BMWED workers at Canadian Pacific play an essential role in this delivery system and deserve the same wages, dignity, and safety as other Class I railroad employees.

Thank you for your labor that ensures the safety and efficiency of our rail roads. I will always put workers' rights, the safety of our communities, and Americans' economic security over corporate profits. Canadian Pacific Rail Workers deserve fair compensation, benefits, and sick leave, and I will continue to fight for their rights. These are the rights and values that I will always defend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betty McCollum".

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress