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August 28, 2012

12-2316-RR-CSS

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

## Sent via fax (614) 466-0313 and US Mail

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Attn.: Docketing Division 13th floor and Ms. Leah Thomas-Dalton

Chief, Transportation Department, Railroad Division

Re: United Transportation Union (UTU) vs. CSX Transportation (CSXT)

Case No. 12-2316-RR-CSS Columbus Terminal, Franklin County, OH

Dear Ms. Thomas-Dalton and Docketing Division:

Please allow this letter to serve as CSX Transportation's formal response and answer to those allegations contemplated by Rule 4901-9-01 of the Ohio Administrative Code (revision effective April 4, 1996). The complaint by the UTU was filed on August 10, 2012 and served on CSXT on August 20, 2012. The cover letter from PUCO directed an answer be filed within 15 days after August 14<sup>th</sup>.

In the complaint submitted by Stuart W. Gardner, on behalf of the UTU, it alleges excessive weeds and vegetation at the west end of the New Yard in the Columbus Terminal, Hamilton County, Ohio.

Upon receipt of the Complaint, an investigation into the allegations was undertaken. CSXT's Roadmaster, Michael Forlenzo, advised the area was sprayed for weeds on August 8<sup>th</sup>. A crew returned on August 10<sup>th</sup> to cut down any remaining vegetation. The tracks that were addressed were New Yard 12, 9 and Parsons 16, 17 and 18.

CSXT remains committed to promptly complying with the statutes of Ohio and the rules and regulations of the Commission to ensure the safety of railroad personnel and the public.

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Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code 4901-9-01, should the Commission determine further investigation is needed, CSXT is prepared to fully cooperate with the Commission on any of the allegations in Mr. Gardner's complaint.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above number.

Very truly yours,

Rachel C. Parker

Rachel & Parker

cc: Stuart Gardner, Chairman, UTU
Malcolm B. Futhey, Jr., UTU
Thomas C. Wood, Esq., UTU
Rusty Orben, CSXT
Michael Forlenzo, CSXT