

From: Finn, Terry J (Govt Affairs)
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 12:05 PM
To: Keller, Jim
Cc: Jones, Douglas B; VanSickle, Bonnie J; Smith, Walter N
Subject: BNSF flood event response

Jim,

As you may know, BNSF has been bombarded with requests from communities and local government agencies about our service and flood control capabilities in the event of a debilitating flood occurrence this winter. BNSF would like to meet with the appropriate flood control representatives of King County and the valley communities to discuss capabilities, access to BNSF right-of-way, indemnification and other issues during the week of October 19, preferably on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Our General Director of Construction Engineering, Walt Smith, will be the lead for BNSF in these discussions, which will be used in part to try to designate appropriate BNSF players to coordinate with the county and local communities on flood-control matters.

We do understand that the county and others already are holding regular meetings on the potential response to a flood event. BNSF will try to attend these meetings, as well. The current meeting request is our attempt to organize contacts and lay out a process of railroad involvement.

We will try to have a BNSF representative from Operations and/or Marketing to attend the Oct. 27 meeting that already has been scheduled. Our request for a gathering during the week of Oct. 19 is really to hold a discussion more heavily focused on rail service and possible use of rail right-of-way during a flood occurrence. We would appreciate your help in contacting local communities to attend. We hope to limit attendance to just 2 or 3 representatives from the county and each community.

Your help is appreciated. As you know there is a process for access to any part of rail right-of-way, and we will not be able to handle such requests and guarantee safety unless we are able to do so in a coordinated way.

Please let me know if you can help to arrange such a meeting.

Thanks and regards,

Terry Finn
BNSF Government Affairs
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