



Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division

Teamsters Rail Conference

Freddie N. Simpson
President

Perry K. Geller, Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer

Dear BMWED Member:

The Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED) invites you to join with fellow Teamster Rail Conference members in a new campaign called "Safe Rails Secure America." This campaign is fully endorsed by our union, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), and is designed to obtain firsthand information about the true condition of security along our nation's railroads.

The data collected will provide important insights to the Teamster Rail Conference regarding the actual state of security and preparedness of our nation's rail transportation network. The information you and other Teamster rail workers provide will be utilized by the Rail Conference and its craft divisions—BMWED and BLE&T—to support Labor's call for improved railroad security and preparedness, including the protection of rail employees and the public from deliberate acts of terrorism.

Since September 11, 2001, billions of dollars have been devoted to the security of the airline industry. Unfortunately, the Bush administration has ignored FBI warnings about the possibility of future attacks on commuter and freight rail lines and has left railroad security up to their friends in private industry.

Because of our craft's geographical dispersion across virtually every mile of railroad track and every rail yard in America, members like yourself are uniquely positioned to identify many of the security vulnerabilities of our industry. BMWED members have intimate knowledge of the railroad infrastructure, including access to, and the vulnerabilities of, bridges, tunnels, tracks, yards and storage facilities. The information provided by craft division members from BMWED and BLE&T will be used to identify security risks for the purpose of protecting rail workers, the public, and the rail industry.

You are among a select group of BMWED members nationwide being asked to share what you see and know about the state of railroad security. Please assist us by filling out the enclosed Safe Rails survey forms (one each day) and returning the completed set to the IBT Rail Conference in the enclosed postage-paid envelope by April 1, 2005. Because this rail security initiative has not been sanctioned by the railroad, you are encouraged to fill out the survey forms *while off railroad property and not on duty*.

I encourage you to join with fellow Teamster Rail Conference members from throughout the United States in helping to secure America's railroads. United together as one, we can make a difference and help protect our industry, our livelihoods, and the economic well being of our nation.

In Solidarity,

President