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6<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Mr. Geir Isaksen  
Chief Executive Officer  
Norwegian State Railways

By Email: [geir.isaksen@nsb.no](mailto:geir.isaksen@nsb.no)

Dear Sir,

The Rail, Tram and Bus Union – NSW Locomotive Division has been informed by our colleagues from the National Union of Norwegian Locomotivemen (NLF) about the dispute and ongoing strike in your companies.

We understand that the core issue is about accepting a common national standard for locomotive drivers' training.

The position of this Union is that the training for Locomotive Driver certification and also the certification of other safety critical staff, is of utmost importance for railway safety. You represent the traditional state owned companies in Norway and have so far a good safety record.

We strongly encourage you to seek a solution to these issues, as has been reached with other private and state owned companies in your country. The railway sector must not be based upon competition on safety standards with the primary goal of cutting costs. The training should be standardised to facilitate a high safety standard and at the same time allow drivers to be employed throughout the industry without the obstacles posed by different levels of safety training requirements.

You should, as big players in the Norwegian railway market, take a special responsibility in acknowledging this.

The Rail, Tram and Bus Union, as a responsible railway workers' union strongly support our NLF colleagues in their strike. We will follow this conflict very closely, together with NSB's efforts to establish daughter companies as players on the international market. We will consider further actions in support of our Norwegian colleagues.

**Social dumping on safety and training will never be accepted!**

Yours faithfully

**ROBERT HAYDEN**  
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