

SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
18TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1529 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5441

123 GRAND ST., 2ND FLOOR
NEWBURGH, NY 12550
(845) 561-1259

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3218

December 2, 2013

Deborah A. P. Hersman
Chairman
The National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594

Dear Chairman Hersman:

I write you today to express my grave concern regarding the tragic derailment of a Metro North train that occurred on December 1, 2013 near the Spuyten Duyvil station in the Bronx borough of New York. This is the worst MTA accident in over 20 years, claiming the lives of four people, including two of my constituents, and injuring dozens more.

The National Transportation Safety Board was set up to conduct expert and complete independent investigations of major transportation disasters. I appreciate your quick response following the incident and your immediate dispatch of investigators to the scene. In the wake of this tragedy, I urge you to conduct a thorough and expeditious investigation to determine the cause of this horrific accident.

Just one crash is one too many, and unfortunately, this is the MTA's fifth major safety incident this year. I encourage the National Transportation Safety Board to conduct a comprehensive examination surrounding the cause of this tragic incident, and recommend additional training, infrastructure, maintenance and safety standards, to be implemented across the entire Metro North system.

Additionally, I urge you to immediately address any MTA safety deficiencies identified as a result of this investigation. Please do not hesitate to issue recommendations before the completion of the final investigation report. We must protect the hundreds of thousands of riders that travel on the Metro North system each day. Their safety is too important to wait.

I thank you for your consideration of this matter and await your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress