



Freight Rail Pricing, Contracts Provide Shippers and Railroads Flexibility, But High Rates Concern Some Shippers: Report to Congressional Committees. (Paperback)

By U S Government Accountability Office

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The nation's freight rail network is vital to the economy, moving about 40 percent of U.S. freight and generating over \$73 billion in revenue in 2013. Railroads charge various rates for moving freight from a particular origin to a particular destination. A rate may be set by the railroad in a public pricing document-known as a tariff-or negotiated through a private contract with a shipper. While most freight ships under contract, some shippers have raised concerns with how railroads negotiate contracts that contain multiple origin-to-destination routes. Though shippers that use rail to transport freight under tariff may seek relief from STB for rates they view as unreasonable, STB has authority to review tariff rates, but not contract rates. The Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization Act of 2015 included a provision for GAO to review rail transportation contract proposals containing multiple origin-to-destination routes. This report addresses (1) similarities and differences in shipping freight under a tariff versus a contract, and the potential benefits to using each, and (2) views of selected stakeholders on the implications of shipping freight under a tariff versus...



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