

ROCU CALLS FOR AN END TO THE WARFARE

Railroad Operating Crafts United (ROCU) opposes both the BLET's move for an A-Card election on the Norfolk Southern, and the UTU's petition before the NMB for a "single-craft" election on the Union Pacific for the following reasons:

- The actions of both unions needlessly ratchet up the ongoing UTU-BLET war to the detriment of the membership of both organizations. The rank-and-file of both unions want unity – not war and divisiveness.

- No matter what the final outcome of either organization's attempt, the end result will not be greater solidarity among the ranks, but only more bitterness, resentment, and animosity.

- ROCU believes the membership of both unions should control their future. Neither the UTU's case before the NMB nor the BLET's A-Card petition is a rank-and-file initiative. Neither effort is designed to mobilize the membership and/or strengthen internal union democracy. These confrontations only serve the interest of the national leadership and the Carriers.

- Finally, in the face of the Carriers' attack upon all railroad crafts and our unions, these actions display how out-of-touch with their membership the leadership has become. The irresponsible and reckless actions of both unions are misdirected energies, spent once again fighting each other, rather than building the necessary unity and strength to mount an effective fight back campaign against our one real adversary – the Carriers.

To put it another way, the leadership of our unions aren't giving us the one choice we really want: a democratic merger. That's why we have formed ROCU—to stand for a merger agreement written by and for the membership. We stand against inter-union warfare. Based on the overwhelming response we've been getting, we think you might agree with this. If so, please contact ROCU and help build the national initiative for a democratic merger of our two unions.

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