FRA Request for Input on Autonomous Trains Draws Over 3000 Comments

More than 3000 comments were filed with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) on the question of autonomous trains. Other than the rail industry itself, nearly all comments were dead set in opposition. Railroad workers, family members, community and environmental activists all weighed in. As the Spring issue of this newsletter went to press, 800 comments had been received, but in the final week more than 2000 additional comments were submitted, in part thanks to efforts to mobilize our substantial network of railroad workers and our allies. While the FRA makes it clear that this exercise is not a popularity contest nor a public opinion poll, RWU feels it is still a worthwhile exercise for us, as it serves the purpose of mobilizing and galvanizing public opinion and, more importantly, railroad workers themselves to prepare for the battles ahead. Just because the rail industry may want this does not mean that we have to go along quietly. Stay tuned!