

RICHARD E. NEAL
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

AT-LARGE WHIP



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
RANKING MEMBER,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT
REVENUE MEASURES
DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
FRIENDS OF IRELAND CAUCUS

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

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July 30, 2012

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
July 30, 2012
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Public Record

Mr. Daniel R. Elliott, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Subject: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am writing concerning the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming (G&W). RailAmerica operates a short line railroad in my district and it is a vital connection for many of our shippers that would otherwise be cut off from the national railroad network.

I am writing to support this transaction and to ask that the Board handle the matter in the most expeditious manner possible. A lengthy approval process will bring uncertainty to shippers and make it difficult for current RailAmerica management to plan future capital investment. An expedited review will reduce uncertainty and limit the amount of time the short line freight railroad in my district is in limbo.

I appreciate your consideration of my views on the matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard E. Neal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress