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VERIFIED STATEMENT
of
Hon. Thomas F. O'Mara
New York State Senate

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Public Record

I am writing in support of Genesee & Wyoming Inc.'s proposed acquisition of RailAmerica to include two small rail lines in New York, one of which is called the Wellsboro Corning Railroad that runs right through the New York State 53rd Senatorial District which I represent.

Recently, Genesee & Wyoming Inc. announced the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica, another short line rail company. Genesee & Wyoming owns and operates several short line and regional railroads in Western New York, where my district encompasses, and it has a strong reputation as a good corporate citizen in our region.

Genesee & Wyoming is a great partner in our state freight transportation network. The company has been active in the freight rail industry since it started here in New York in 1899. It has a strong record of buying other short line railroads, investing in them, and developing long term growth opportunities. This in turn helps maintain and grow industrial sector jobs in our communities.

In addition, I have been very impressed with Genesee & Wyoming's focus on safety. It is an industry leader in this area, and this is a direct reflection of its commitment to provide superior service to the communities along its lines. In fact, in 2011, two of its railroads won the Harriman rail safety award.

For these reasons, I strongly support this proposal, and ask for expedited review and approval of it by the Surface Transportation Board.

I, Thomas F. O'Mara declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this verified statement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas F. O'Mara".

Hon. Thomas F. O'Mara, 53rd SD
July 26, 2012