



JB Hunt Transport Services, Inc.

237145

November 20, 2014

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

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Office of Proceedings
November 24, 2014
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RE: Finance Docket No. FD35873, *Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Acquisition and Operation – Certain Rail Lines of The Delaware and Hudson Railway*

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc. submits this letter in strong support of the application filed on November 17, 2014, of Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NS”) to acquire and operate certain rail lines of The Delaware and Hudson Railway (“D&H”).

J.B. Hunt is one of the leading transportation logistics companies in North America, operating the largest fleet of privately owned 53’ intermodal containers and one of the biggest private drayage fleets in the nation. J.B. Hunt depends on reliable and sustainable service on Norfolk Southern’s routes over the D&H South Lines. Our company ships intermodal containers from over thirty rail origins across the U.S. to ramps in Albany, NY and Ayer, MA via Norfolk Southern over the D&H.

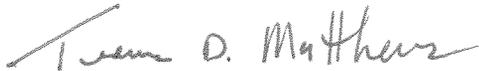
J.B. Hunt supports the proposed acquisition for several reasons. Primarily, this acquisition would increase competition in the Northeast surface transportation market. Because NS would be directly connected with its PanAm Southern facilities, notable improvements would likely be made to service and transit times. By aligning ownership with usage, NS should also be able to realize additional operating efficiencies that would improve the reliability and sustainability of service on the lines. These improvements would enhance overall competition by offering beneficial cargo owners a more attractive option for transporting freight in the Northeast. This acquisition would replace a disinterested D&H with a more robust NS, bringing renewed vitality and continued

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viability to the lines. It is also worth noting that any disruption of service during the transition would be minimal, as NS already operates over the lines on a daily basis.

For the above reasons, J.B. Hunt strongly supports the application of NS before the STB to acquire and operate certain rail lines of D&H. We respectfully request your expedited review and approval of this minor transaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terrence D. Matthews".

Terrence D. Matthews
Executive Vice President and President of Intermodal
J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.

cc: Kevin Saunders
Director Intermodal Marketing, Premium Service
Norfolk Southern Corporation