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232696

JOHN BARROW
12TH DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
August 1, 2012

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
August 1, 2012
Part of
Public Record

Mr. Daniel R. Elliott
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20433

Dear Chairman Elliott,

I write to offer my support for Genesee & Wyoming Inc.'s (GWI) proposed acquisition of RailAmerica, Inc.

GWI has worked in my district for years. Their railroads provide the "first mile – last mile" of freight service, connecting Macon and Savannah, Georgia. This line, the Georgia Central Railroad, is a 171-mile short line freight railroad that brings together CSX Transportation, Heart of Georgia Railroad, and Norfolk Southern.

Constituents of mine tell me of GWI's good stewardship to the community. They believe in being good corporate citizens. As we look to foster economic growth and efficiency during these hard economic times, this acquisition can and should be part of the solution. GWI has a history of investing in newly-acquired short line railroads, so this acquisition will spur the manufacturing and industrial sectors in my community and throughout the county.

For these and many other reasons, I support the proposed acquisition, and I hope you will give their application every due consideration. If I can be of assistance, please contact me or have your staff contact Hill Thomas in my office at (202) 225-2823.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Barrow".

John Barrow

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