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April 8, 2011

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**VIA E-FILE**

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Public Record

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E. Street, S.W., Room #100  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**NOTICE OF SUPPORT  
AND  
REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW**

**Re: STB Finance Docket No.: FD35490 – Notice of Exemption  
Sierra Northern Railway – Acquisition and Operation Exemption –  
Union Pacific Railroad Company; and**

**STB Finance Docket No.: FD35491 - Santa Cruz County Regional  
Transportation Commission – Petition for Declaratory Order**

Dear Ms. Brown:

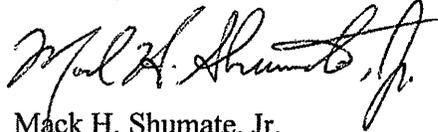
Union Pacific Railroad Company (“Union Pacific”) supports the above-referenced Notice of Exemption filed by Sierra Northern Railway (“SERA”) under STB Finance No.: FD35490 and the related Petition for Declaratory Order filed by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (“SCCRTC”), STB Finance Docket No.: FD35491. SERA’s Notice of Exemption and the related Petition for Declaratory Order filed by SCCRTC are designed and have the objective to preserve and improve the subject line for continued freight rail operations in the 30 mile service area while at the same time allowing for the development of other potential compatible public uses on and along the Line. The parties have worked for well over 10 years with the California Transportation Commission to complete this project. Funding and all local authority and contracts for the project are now in place. The parties are willing and now ready and able to close the various transactions required for the project and are unanimous in their determination to close this transaction as soon as practicable.



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For these reasons, the Union Pacific respectfully requests that the Surface Transportation Board provide expedited consideration to the matters within the statutory and regulatory framework available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mack H. Shumate, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.  
Senior General Attorney

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