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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

January 29, 2013

By e-filing

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20024

233742
ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 29, 2013
Part of
Public Record

Re: Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X), *Union Pacific Railroad Company --
Abandonment Exemption -- in Lafourche Parish, LA*

Dear Ms. Brown:

Valentine Chemicals LLC is a party of record in the above proceeding.

There is a realistic potential for substantial rail traffic over the Lockport Branch that the Board should take into account in any decision regarding abandonment or continued rail service over the Branch.

Valentine has noted the recent filing in behalf of LogiBio LLC. The project under active consideration by LogiBio would result in thousands of railcars per year moving over the entire Lockport Branch.

In addition, Chinese interests are actively considering establishing a container unloading facility at Port Fourchon for inbound containers from China. Port Fourchon is located on the Gulf of Mexico not far south of the Lockport Branch. Containers would be transloaded from ocean vessels to trucks at Port Fourchon, and from trucks to railcars at Lockport (rail station Jay) for rail transportation beyond. Representatives of Chinese interests are spending several months in the area at Houma, LA in planning for the container project.

In addition, Valentine is actively considering shipment of its chemicals by rail over the Lockport Branch. Valentine was a user of the Branch until it began to be downgraded by

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Southern Pacific some years back. Rehabilitation of the tracks for large volumes of crude oil and containers would pave the way for return of Valentine's traffic to the Lockport Branch.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom McFarland".

Thomas F. McFarland
Attorney for Valentine Chemicals

TMcF:kl:1519\efSTB10

cc: All parties of record