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The Honorable Daniel R. Elliot, III
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Suite 1220
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Elliot:

I write today on behalf of the Birmingham Business Alliance to express our support for a strong national freight railroad network.

As America pulls itself out of the Great Recession, the rail industry must be able to reinvest in itself while continuing to provide efficient, reliable services.

The Birmingham Business Alliance supports a healthy freight rail network that encourages reinvestment by the rail industry, supports job growth and continued economic recovery.

We oppose policies or regulatory changes that would hinder the freight railroads' ability to continue investing billions of dollars annually in private capital growth to grow and modernize the nation's rail infrastructure. We respectfully request that the Surface Transportation Board refrain from pursuing regulatory or policy changes at this time. This will help ensure a strong and well-balanced regulatory regime for the rail industry.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Hilson
President and Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham Business Alliance