

JAMES P. McGOVERN
2ND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP

September 29, 2016

Chairman Daniel R. Elliott III
Vice Chairman Deb Miller
Member Ann D. Begeman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2102

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
October 5, 2016
Part of
Public Record

RE: GENESEE & WYOMING INC. - ACQUISITION OF CONTROL EXEMPTION -
PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY DOCKET NUMBER 36064

Dear Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller, and Member Begeman:

As you may be aware, I have been closely watching the progress of an effort by a local private interest, The Boston Surface Railroad Company, to restore passenger railroad service between Worcester, MA and Providence, RI. I also applaud your recent decision to grant BSRC the authority to operate such a service on the PWRR's system.

It is my understanding the two companies have been working closely together towards the resumption of this service which has not seen regular schedules since the 1960s. Not only do I consider this service to be critical to the economic and social wellbeing of my district and the region as a whole, but I cannot stress enough how important investment into transportation infrastructure such as this is, especially by private entities.

While the potential increase in freight capacity that may follow the acquisition of PWRR by Genesee and Wyoming, Inc. is important in and of itself, it does not hold the promise of increased employment, social mobility and small business growth and development that passenger rail does.

For that reason, I would ask the Board to exercise full and fair consideration for the proposed change in control conditional upon Genesee and Wyoming continuing the project started by the PWRR and BSRC. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Brissette of my Worcester district office at kelly.brissette@mail.house.gov or 508-831-7356.

Sincerely,



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

CC: Parties of Record via E-Mail