

United States Senate

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December 11, 2014

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The Honorable Dan Elliott
Chairman, Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW, Suite 1220
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: Finance Docket No. 35873; Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Acquisition and Operation –
Certain Rail Lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, Inc.

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am writing to you in support of the application filed on November 17, 2014 by Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NS) to acquire and operate the D&H South Lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company (D&H).

Pennsylvania is home to significant rail operations which support many high quality jobs. Our expanding industrial sector depends heavily on a reliable rail network to receive inputs and move goods to market. The D&H South Lines are particularly important and connect manufacturers in central and northeastern Pennsylvania to key markets in New York and New England. Approving this transaction will ensure that the D&H South Lines are integrated into a Class I carrier with a history of strong reinvestment practices. This should protect the continued viability of the D&H South Lines and create operating efficiencies that benefit regional rail customers.

Further, I have been assured that NS plans to increase local service along the lines and retain a significant number of D&H employees. NS has also stated it will honor existing D&H contracts and continue to allow commercial access to lines. As a result, this transaction should increase overall competition and service choices for shippers in the Northeast and Pennsylvania.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of my request and I respectfully recommend that you review and approve this proposal in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Pat Toomey
United States Senator

Cc: Vice Chairman Deb Miller, Commissioner Ann Begeman

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