

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 17, 2014 237411

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
December 30, 2014
Part of
Public Record

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN
2014 DEC 30 PM 12:01

RE: Finance Docket No. 35783
Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Acquisition and Operation – Certain Rail Lines of
The Delaware and Hudson Railway

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am writing in support of Norfolk Southern Railway Company's application to acquire and operate certain rail lines of The Delaware and Hudson Railway Company (D&H). It is my understanding that this acquisition will ensure the continued viability of the D&H South lines and benefit the Northeast rail network, customers and industries. I respectfully urge you to give full and fair consideration to this application.

Many businesses and industries in Pennsylvania rely on dependable rail services to transport goods and commodities to locations throughout the United States. The 127-mile Delaware and Hudson line is an important piece of Pennsylvania's extensive rail network. It is critical that the owner and operator of this line provide a high level of service and expertise, as well as demonstrate a commitment to the continued success and future of freight rail in the Commonwealth. Norfolk Southern's success as a strong Class I carrier would ensure the continued viability of the D&H lines. I have been advised that Norfolk Southern already operates daily on the D&H line, and this familiarity should cause little to no disruption of service for industries. This acquisition will also preserve existing jobs and has the potential to create new job opportunities.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my views. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, I also respectfully request that you keep me informed of the status of this application. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me or Jack Groarke on my staff at (202) 224-6324.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

Cc: Vice Chairman Deb Miller, Commissioner Ann Begeman