



The Mennel Milling Company

Gary Strausbaugh, Vice President of Transportation
128 West Crocker Street
P.O. Box 806
Fostoria, Ohio 44830-0806

Tel: 419-435-8151
Fax: 419-436-5150
Email: gstrausbaugh@mennel.com

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Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

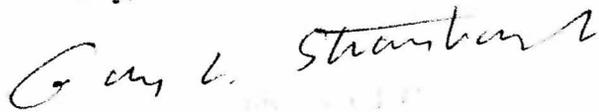
RE: Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Acquisition and Operation – Certain Rail Lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, Inc.
STB Docket No. FD 35873

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing on behalf of The Mennel Milling Company to express our strong support of the application filed on November 17, 2014 by Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NS”) to acquire and operate certain rail lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, Inc. (“D&H”). The Mennel Milling Company supports the proposed acquisition because NS is a highly regarded Class I carrier with a history of strong reinvestment practices, which should ensure the continued viability of the D&H South Lines. Currently, NS is the primary user of the D&H South Lines with daily operations over these lines, so the proposed acquisition should result in minimal disruption of service. By aligning ownership with usage, the proposed acquisition also creates operating efficiencies that should improve the reliability and sustainability of service. In addition, the proposed acquisition enhances overall competition in the Northeast surface transportation market as it enables NS and D&H to more effectively compete with rail and non-rail transportation modes by strengthening their respective rail systems in the region. As there are no competitive harms that would arise from this acquisition, our company fully supports this proposal.

For the above reasons, we strongly support the application of NS before the STB to acquire and operate certain rail lines of D&H. We respectfully request your expedited review and approval of this minor transaction.

Sincerely,



Gary L. Strausbaugh
Vice President Transportation
The Mennel Milling Company

Copies of the above letter sent to the following parties of record:

Jeffrey A. Bartos
Guerrieri, Clayman, Bartos & Parcelli, P.C.
1900 M Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Scott P. Conti
Providence and Worcester Railroad Company
75 Hammond Street
Worcester, MA 01610

Steven M. Golich
Celtic International.
7840 Graphics Drive, Suite 100
Tinley Park, IL 60477

Peter R. Leishman
Milford-Bennington Railroad Co., Inc.
62 Elm Street
Milford, NH 03055

Terrence D. Matthews
JB Hunt Transport Services, Inc.
130
Lowell, AR 72745-0130

Wayne A Michel
Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company
P.O. BOX 218
Port Clinton, PA 19549

William A. Mullins
Baker & Miller PLLC
2401 Pennsylvania Ave, NW-Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037

Mike Radak
Hanjin Shipping America, L.L.C.
80 Route 4 East
Paramus, NJ 07652-4600



The Journal Milling Company
