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**PUTNAM COUNTY  
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION**

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VIRGIL MILLER, PRES.

MARTIN J. KUHLMAN, DIRECTOR

JEFF VANCE, V-PRES.

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

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Dear Chairman Elliot:

The Putnam County Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) is writing to express our support for a strong freight railroad network, not only in our state/region, but across the nation.

As America finally begins to pull itself out of the Great Recession, we do not need to reverse progress by damaging the ability of the rail industry to reinvest and continue to provide strong service. An example of how reinvestment and strong service by the Railroads creates a healthy environment is evidenced in Putnam County, Ohio. Three of our rail served Businesses in Leipsic have and are investing over a billion dollars in new manufacturing facilities with a result of over six hundred new high paying jobs.

Therefore, the CIC supports a healthy freight rail network system that encourages reinvestment by the rail industry and we strongly oppose any policy or regulatory changes that would hinder the freight railroads' ability to continue investing billions of dollars annually in private capital to grow and modernize the nation's rail infrastructure. We respectfully request that no regulatory or policy changes be pursued at this time by the STB. We need to maintain the strong and well-balanced regulatory regime we have in place today.

Thank you for your consideration regarding our position.

Sincerely



Martin J. Kuhlman, Director