

Ohio House of Representatives



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JAY HOTTINGER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 71

STB Docket No. FD 35654
VERIFIED STATEMENT
of
Jay Hottinger, State Representative

July 26, 2012

Mr. Daniel R. Elliott, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Mr. Elliott,

My name is Jay Hottinger. I am a State Representative at the Ohio House of Representatives and have served in this capacity since 2007. Additionally, I served as State Representative from 1995 to February of 1998 and as State Senator from February of 1998 to 2006.

The Ohio House of Representatives is the one of the legislative chambers of the Ohio General Assembly. Our aim at the legislature is to produce laws that improve the quality of life for all Ohioans.

I am writing in support of the recently announced proposed acquisition of RailAmerica, Inc. by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. (GWI).

Genesee & Wyoming is a valued partner in our regional freight transportation network. Their railroads provide freight services to many areas of Ohio that otherwise would have no access to the national rail network. They have a strong record of investing in the properties they acquire and contributing to the economic development and retention efforts in the regions where they are located. Their engagement has assisted with industry growth and jobs in my area.

Additionally, I have been impressed with GWI's strong focus on safety. They are an industry leader in rail safety and this is a direct reflection of their commitment to their employees as well as the communities they serve.

For these reasons, I strongly support this proposal and respectfully request expedited review and approval by the Surface Transportation Board.

I, Jay Hottinger, declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this verified statement.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Hottinger".

Jay Hottinger, State Representative, Ohio House of Representatives
07/26/2012

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