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kloeckner metals

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STB Docket No. FD 36064

VERIFIED STATEMENT
of on behalf of the
Kloeckner Metals Corp.

My name is **Gene Klesser**, General Manager of Kloeckner Metals, 760 Newfield Street, Middletown, CT 06457. I have served in this capacity since July of 1990.

Kloeckner Metals Corp. is a global metals distribution company and ranks number three in the United States top steel service centers. Overall the Kloeckner Group has 50 stocking locations in the United States for a total revenue of \$2.9 billion in 2015. The Kloeckner Middletown Branch distributes approximately 48,000 tons of steel annually in the New England and Middle Atlantic Regions.

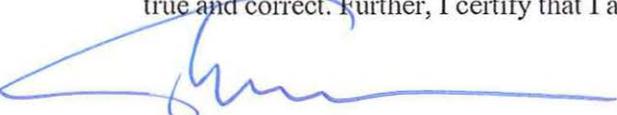
We receive steel coils and plates by rail from many of the major US steel mills by rail for processing and distribution from our Connecticut Branch. We also receive steel coils by rail to process for our sister company in Nashua, NH. Year to date 2016 we have received a total of more than 27,000 tons by rail from the P&W RR. In addition to the service provided to us by the P&WRR to Middletown, we are using them to service our customer in North Kingston, RI.

On August 31, 2016 Genesee & Wyoming Inc. ("G&W") filed with the Surface Transportation Board a Petition for Exemption to acquire control of Providence and Worcester Railroad Company ("P&W"), a Class III railroad operating in Connecticut.

I understand that G&W-owned railroads provide freight service to many areas of **New England** that otherwise would have no access to the national rail network without short line service and that Genesee & Wyoming Inc. has a very strong record of acquiring short lines throughout the United States, investing in the properties and growing business. I understand that G&W will continue to operate P&W as a separate railroad. However, I am sure the overall corporate focus, professionalism and the commitment to safety and service will definitely be beneficial for the P&W.

For these reasons, I strongly support G&W's petition and control of P&W, and ask for expedited review and approval of it by the Surface Transportation Board.

I, **Gene Klesser**, 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.


Gene Klesser, General Manager, Kloeckner Metals, Corp.

October 7th, 2016

cc: All parties of record

