



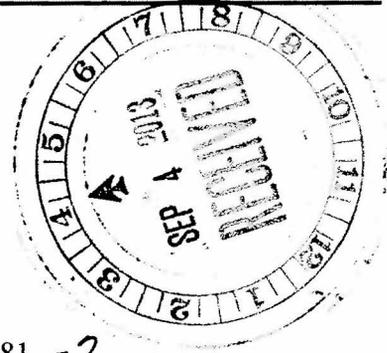
234754  
**Pennington County  
Commissioners**

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August 20, 2013

Surface Transportation Board  
395 E. Street, S.W.  
Washington DC 20423-0001

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
SEP 9 - 2013  
Part of  
Public Record



RE: Petition of the State of South Dakota - Finance Docket No. 35081 -2

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

The Pennington County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously on August 20, 2013 to support the State of South Dakota's petition effort to require Canadian Pacific Railroad to demonstrate compliance with the commitments it made for capital improvements and safety compliance for its railroad lines in South Dakota.

Pennington County is located on the western edge of the State of South Dakota and is the economic center of Western South Dakota and includes vast agricultural area on its prairies and forests in the Central Black Hills. Pennington County includes Rapid City, the second largest city in South Dakota which is a wholesale, retail, and commercial center with business and agricultural needs for rail services upon which it depends.

The County has many grain producers, a cement manufacturer, saw mills, wholesalers and distributors which depend upon rail services to deliver their materials and products and to receive shipments from outside the State of South Dakota. The Canadian Pacific Railroad owns and operates the only west to east statewide railroad service which provides service to Rapid City and Pennington County, South Dakota, with connections to Eastern South Dakota and beyond to the central and eastern United States, especially the major grain markets and commercial manufacturing centers. Canadian Pacific also owns and operates the railroad line from Colony, Wyoming to Rapid City, South Dakota, which provides rail service to ship bentonite from the mines at Colony, Wyoming east across South Dakota to eastern markets.

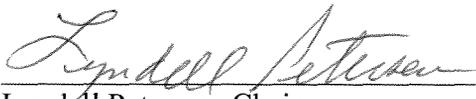
Many businesses, both agricultural and commercial, depend upon reliable rail services to serve their needs in Pennington County and the maintenance and improvement of the Canadian Pacific line from Rapid City, South Dakota to Tracy, Minnesota is vital to its continued operation.

The Honorable Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the State of South Dakota, has petitioned the Surface Transportation Board to require the Canadian Pacific to demonstrate compliance with

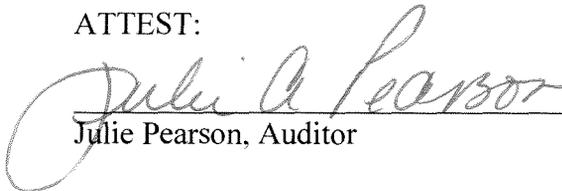
the commitments which it made for capital improvements and safety compliance on that railroad trackage in South Dakota at the time of the purchase thereof from the Dakota Minnesota and Eastern (DME) Railroad. The portion of the Canadian Pacific railroad line from Rapid City to Ft. Pierre, South Dakota, which is part of the Canadian Pacific line, is a vital connection to Eastern South Dakota and markets beyond. This line must be maintained as it is so important to Pennington County and the Black Hills region of South Dakota and when the Canadian Pacific acquired the DME railroad in South Dakota, it made commitments to expend capital sums to improve the railroad lines and such maintenance is vital to the continuation of rail service to Western South Dakota in Pennington County.

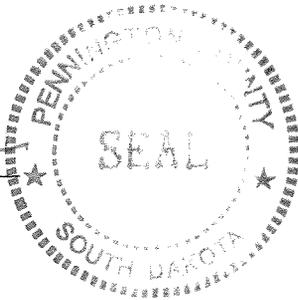
The Pennington County Commission does support, in its entirety, the Petition of the State of South Dakota endorsing the same with the unqualified support to the prayer for relief as set forth above.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Pennington County Board of Commissioners

  
Lyndell Petersen, Chairman

ATTEST:

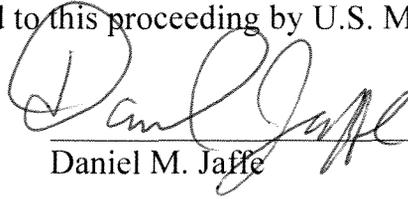
  
Julie Pearson, Auditor



cc: The Honorable Governor Daugaard  
The Honorable John Thune  
The Honorable Tim Johnson  
The Honorable Kristi Noem  
West River Rail Association

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this fourth day of September, 2013, I served copies of the forgoing on all parties of record to this proceeding by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid.

  
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Daniel M. Jaffe