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United States Senate

July 31, 2012

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS

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232722

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
July 31, 2012
Part of
Public Record

Subject: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliot:

I am writing concerning the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica, Inc. (RA) by Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. (G&W). I respectfully request that the Board review the matter in the most expeditious manner possible.

Short line and regional freight railroads are a vital connection for many of our Kansas farmers and manufacturers that would otherwise be cut off from the national railroad network. One short line railroad located in Kansas, the Kyle Railroad, is presently operated by RailAmerica and utilized by many Kansas companies. These organizations depend on the safe, efficient, timely and competitive rail service that the Kyle Railroad provides. The national railroad network relies on the movement of grain, raw materials, and manufactured goods provided by these local rail operations and provides economic development opportunities to surrounding regions.

A lengthy approval process will bring uncertainty to farmers and rail customers and make it difficult for current management to plan future capital investment that is critical to the future of short line railroading. I ask that the STB consider this transaction on an expedited basis.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,



Jerry Moran