



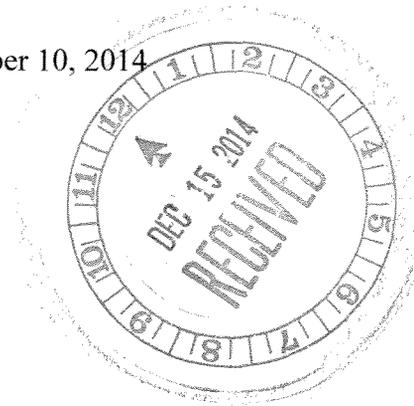
STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
16 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0016

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

December 10, 2014

David Bernhardt  
COMMISSIONER

Cynthia T. Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20024



237234

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
December 15, 2014  
Part of  
Public Record

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Acquisition and Operation—Certain  
Rail Lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, Inc.  
STB Finance Docket No. 35873*

Dear Ms. Brown:

We are writing this letter on behalf of the State of Maine, Department of Transportation (“MaineDOT”) to express our support of the application filed on November 17, 2014 by Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NS”) to acquire and operate certain rail lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, Inc. (“D&H”). MaineDOT recognizes that an efficient and dependable transportation network is integral to long term economic growth, and that a key component of such a network is competition among all transportation modes. The planned acquisition of D&H rail lines by NS will result in additional direct routing options for Maine rail users to the national rail network, while also improving the reliability of rail service through increased competition and investment by NS. MaineDOT is also aware of the significant investment that NS has previously made in the Patriot Corridor that has already provided benefits for Maine rail users, and additional investment by NS in the rail network can only increase those benefits for shippers in Maine, notwithstanding the fact that the NS investment will be primarily in New York State.

Accordingly, MaineDOT respectfully requests that this minor transaction be approved as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

David Bernhardt  
Commissioner



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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date a copy of the foregoing document was served by US first class mail, postage prepaid, to the following Parties of Record:

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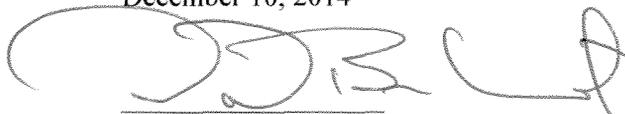
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December 10, 2014

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Bernhardt', written over a horizontal line.

David Bernhardt, Commissioner