

TIM HUELSKAMP
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

E-MAIL VIA WEBSITE:
<http://huelskamp.house.gov/>

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1601

July 31, 2012

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES AND
RISK MANAGEMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CONSERVATION, ENERGY, AND FORESTRY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY
BUDGET COMMITTEE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

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

232692

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

Re: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am contacting you regarding the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica, Inc. by Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. RailAmerica is the parent company of Kyle Railroad, which is located in Phillipsburg, Kansas. I am proud to have Kyle Railroad in my congressional district, and I have seen firsthand what an important role short line rail plays for the many agriculturally-based businesses in Kansas. Rail provides a quick, reliable, affordable method of transporting goods throughout the Heartland. I am hopeful that the Surface Transportation Board will be able to review this transaction as quickly as possible so that short line rail can continue to provide excellent services without unnecessary regulatory burdens.

In rural areas, the ability to adapt quickly is critical to developing new opportunities in these difficult economic times. Lengthy regulatory approvals make long-term planning difficult and complicate investment decisions that are critical to the local economy. Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. has a reputation for acquiring short lines, investing in them, and developing long-term growth opportunities, and I believe this acquisition would be positive for Kansas.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and hope the Board will take into account my recommendation when determining whether or not to conduct the review of this transaction on an expedited basis.

Sincerely,



Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress

WASHINGTON, DC:
126 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2715
FAX: (202) 225-5124

DODGE CITY:
100 MILITARY AVENUE, SUITE 204
P.O. Box 999
DODGE CITY, KS 67801
(620) 225-0172
FAX: (620) 225-0297

HUTCHINSON:
ONE NORTH MAIN, SUITE 525
P.O. Box 1244
HUTCHINSON, KS 67504
(620) 665-6138
FAX: (620) 665-6360

SALINA:
119 WEST IRON AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR, SUITE A
P.O. Box 766
SALINA, KS 67402
(785) 309-0572
FAX: (785) 827-6957