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July 27, 2012

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

Subject: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliott:

The announcement of the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. has recently come to my attention and I write to express my support for this transaction.

Since Genesee & Wyoming Inc. began operations in 1899, it has bought other short line railroads, invested in them, and developed long term growth opportunities. This work is absolutely critical to help us maintain and grow industrial sector jobs in our communities.

Genesee & Wyoming company has built a track record of very successful acquisitions of other short line railroads in the United States, and I have every reason to believe there will be many positive benefits associated with its proposed acquisition of RailAmerica.

For these reasons, I strongly support this proposal, and ask for expedited review and approval of it by the Surface Transportation Board.

Sincerely,



Michael S Lee
United States Senator

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