

WALLY HERGER  
2ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA



COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0502

August 2, 2012

232655

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

Subject: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliott:

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
August 2, 2012  
Part of  
Public Record

I was recently contacted by Northern California constituents I represent who support the expedited review of the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming (G&W). I have enclosed a letter from Siskiyou County Supervisor Jim Cook expressing his support for the merger. Considering the strong local support, I likewise request the timely review of this transaction.

RailAmerica operates a short line railroad in Northern California that is a vital connection for local shippers. The proposed acquisition stands to provide a number of benefits to local communities, including better transportation options, greater safety, increased economic growth, and strong customer service resulting from local decision making authority. Furthermore, I understand the acquisition enjoys solid support from local business leaders.

With that said, I understand a lengthy approval process could bring uncertainty to shippers who depend upon this rail line and make it difficult for railroad management to plan future capital investment. An efficient review, on the other hand, will reduce ambiguity for the business community and limit the amount of time the short line freight railroad in Northern California remains in regulatory limbo.

For these reasons, I request that the Surface Transportation Board review this transaction as quickly as possible. I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

  
WALLY HERGER  
Member of Congress

Enclosure



## COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

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### Board of Supervisors

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July 27, 2012

Dear Mr. Anzur;

I support the acquisition of Rail America, Inc. ("RA"), by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. ("G&W"), parent company of the Portland and Western Railroad. There is no overlap of service between RA's Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad, Inc. ("CORP"); therefore, there are no competitive concerns, as the merger creates no 2-to-1 scenarios. While there is no overlap in service, CORP and P&W have worked and will continue to work together to build short line to short line traffic, creating short-haul truck competitive transportation solutions.

Short line and regional freight railroads are a critical component of industries in Siskiyou County. G&W's 100-year history of being a dedicated, long-term owner/operator provides our industries and their customers with a high level of assurance that we have a long-term rail partner. G&W's financial strength and long-term view allow them to properly invest in rail infrastructure.

G&W's commitment to safety and customer service are core values that are clearly demonstrated by industry-leading safety performance and customer satisfaction scores, outperforming both the trucking industry and the rail industry as a whole, as noted by their latest J.D. Power & Associates survey. G&W's decentralized operating philosophy allows decision making at the local level that allows the local G&W companies to respond to customer needs.

I encourage favorable consideration for the RA/GW transaction. It will provide Siskiyou County industries enhanced transportation options and services.

Sincerely,

Jim Cook  
Siskiyou County Supervisor, District 1

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Jim Cook  
District 1

Ed Valenzuela  
District 2

Michael N. Kobseff  
District 3

Grace Bennett  
District 4

Marcia H. Armstrong  
District 5