



SAMUEL H. SMITH
THE SPEAKER

House of Representatives

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg
STB Docket No. FD 35654

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VERIFIED STATEMENT
of
Representative Sam Smith]
as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives

My name is Sam Smith. I am a State Representative in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Legislative District 66. I have served in this capacity since January of 1987.

On July 23rd the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming Inc was publically announced. Over the years I have worked with the Genesee & Wyoming short line railroad and, specifically, the Buffalo and Pittsburgh RR in Pennsylvania.

My experience working with Genesee & Wyoming has been very positive. Their railroads provide freight service to many areas of my legislative district that otherwise would have no access to the national rail network without short line service. Genesee & Wyoming has a very strong record of acquiring short lines throughout the United States, investing in the properties, and growing business. This results in safe, reliable rail freight services that help us grow industry and jobs in our state.

Safety is a key area of focus for Genesee & Wyoming Inc. Two of its railroads won the 2011 Harriman rail safety awards. Their operations in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania demonstrate this commitment to safety.

The overall corporate focus of Genesee & Wyoming Inc. will definitely enhance the short line railroads now operated by RailAmerica. For these reasons, I strongly support this proposal, and ask for expedited review and approval of it by the Surface Transportation Board.

I, Sam Smith, declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this verified statement.

Sam Smith
State Representative
66th Legislative District
July 31, 2012