



Ames Construction, Inc.

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April 16, 2011

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Office of Proceedings

APR 25 2011

Part of
Public Record

EP 705

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

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am Raymond Ames, President, Ames Construction, Inc. With over fifty years of experience in heavy construction, specifically, highway, railroad, utility and energy projects. Ames Construction, Inc., a family owned and operated company provides complete interfaced solutions for light rail, heavy rail, and commuter/rapid transit projects. Ames Construction is presently a major contractor on the Denver RTD project, along with major bridge and roadbed construction projects for the BNSF and Union Pacific Railroads.

We employ over 1,000 employees, with regional operations in Minnesota, Colorado, Arizona, Utah and Nevada.

I write today in strong support of maintaining the current economic regulatory system applicable over the Railroad Industry. The continued success of Ames Construction, Inc. relies on Class 1 and short line railroads being a strong and expanding industry. Proposed changes in the current regulatory system could have long term detrimental effects on railroad infrastructure investment and growth. As a result, this would have definite adverse effects on our business.

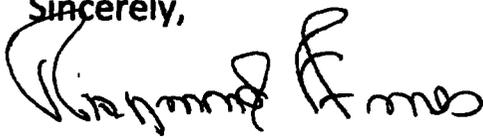
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We are concerned for the continued growth and success of the railroad industry. Therefore, we urge the Surface Transportation Board to refrain from making changes to the existing economic regulatory system covering the railroad industry.

Thank you for your positive consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond Ames". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "A".

Raymond Ames