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**Decatur-Morgan County Port Authority**  
300 Market Street N.E. Suite 2  
Decatur, Alabama 35601

**Orval Dee Proctor**  
President

April 20, 2011

**Harvey Pride**  
Vice-President

The Honorable Daniel R. Elliot, III  
Chairman

**ENTERED**  
Office of Proceedings

**Stratton Orr**  
Secretary/Treasurer

Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Suite 1220

APR 27 2011

**Tommy Ed Roberts**  
Board Member

Washington, DC 20423-0001

Part of  
Public Record

**Jimmy Ray Smith**  
Board Member

Dear Chairman Elliot:

I am writing to express the Decatur Morgan County Port Authority's support for a strong freight railroad network, not only in our state/region, but across the nation.

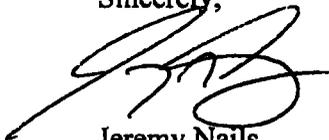
As America finally begins to pull itself out of the Great Recession, we do not need to reverse progress by damaging the ability of the rail industry to reinvest and continue to provide strong service.

We support a healthy freight rail network that encourages reinvestment by the rail industry, supports job growth and continued economic recovery.

We oppose any policy or regulatory changes that would hinder the freight railroads' ability to continue investing billions of dollars annually in private capital to grow and modernize the nation's rail infrastructure. We respectfully request that no regulatory or policy changes be pursued at this time by the STB. We need to maintain the strong and well-balanced regulatory regime we have in place today.

Thank you for our consideration of our position.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Nails  
Executive Director