

229819

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing to urge the Surface Transportation Board to make a finding that there is a profound lack of rail-to-rail competition in the national rail system. The STB should change its policies to enable increased rail-to-rail competition.

While I am not a supporter of government involvement, I am a stronger supporter of free market competition and I believe the two go hand in hand I believe governments role in the free market should only be to strengthen the free market. Not controlling companies or trying to strong arm CEO's ect. Does the rail industry have fair competition that is what the board should look at, and if not then policies should be look at to correct this issue.

Rural-based business and agriculture rely on affordable electricity. Increased rail competition will help maintain affordable electric rates in rural America and will improve economic opportunities for rural communities like mine.

Increased rail competition will also increase the revenues of American agriculture by improving the ability of producers and manufacturers to ship their products affordably, thus improving exports, creating jobs and improving the standard of living in rural communities.

The Surface Transportation Board has an opportunity to make a positive difference and help improve our economy. The comments that the STB has received include numerous examples of the lack of adequate competition in the railroad industry. I hope the STB will find that there is inadequate competition in the railroad industry and will then revise their policies to enhance rail-to-rail competition in order to help preserve affordable electricity and good jobs throughout America.

Thank you.

Zack Jouett
11018 N Hwy 191
Elfrida, AZ 85610

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 9 2011

Part of
Public Record