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SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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September 6, 2013

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Office of Proceedings

SEP 17 2013

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Public Record



Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0111

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35081 *subls. 2*

Dear Ms. Brown,

Agriculture is South Dakota's No. 1 industry, generating more than \$21 billion in economic activity each year. With more than 41 million acres in crop and pastureland, our state's farmers and ranchers are an incredibly important economic driver.

Much of the value of this production comes as a result of market access. The Canadian Pacific Railway's proposed sale of the former Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern rail line is of great interest, as many of the 122,000 South Dakotans involved in agriculture and its value-added industries stand to be impacted. As the only east-west rail line traversing the entire state, the CP line provides vital market access, and we have a vested interest in maintaining that service.

South Dakota always has been and will continue to be an agricultural state. Now more than ever we are dependent on reliable rail access to ensure our farmers and ranchers have access to market. I support Governor Daugaard's petition and ask that you investigate the CP's representations to the Board

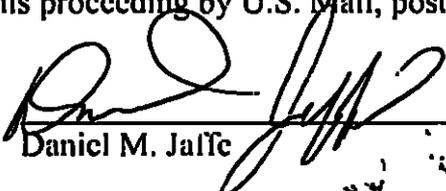
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lucas Lentsch
South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 17th day of September, 2013, I served copies of the forgoing on all parties of record to this proceeding by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid.


Daniel M. Jaffe