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ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
BOARD

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

July 24, 2013  
234643  
ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
August 8, 2013  
Part of Public  
Record



RE: Finance Docket No. 35523  
CSX Transportation, Inc. – Joint Use – Louisville & Indiana Railroad Company, Inc.

I am writing to notify the Surface Transportation Board of our support for the filing for rail line improvements as proposed by the Louisville and Indiana (L&I) and CSX railroads.

The proposed investment will upgrade the integrity of the rail line that runs through Columbus and Bartholomew County, it will allow companies to source products and deliver finished goods efficiently, and it will allow for faster and safer transit of trains through our community.

Moreover, our community has a number of industries that rely on rail service, and according to *Indiana Economic Development Corporation* reports, up to 1/3 of all prospective company investment projects (i.e., those that would create new jobs and new capital investment in Indiana) have expressed a preference for rail service as being one of their primary decision points. The proposed enhancements, therefore, will support the needs of our existing employers, and it will also better position us for future economic growth.

For all of the reasons above, we strongly support the proposed rail line improvements as proposed by L&I and CSX, and we thank you for your support as well.

Sincerely,

Jason Hester, CEcD  
Executive Director

E: [jhester@columbusIN.org](mailto:jhester@columbusIN.org)

CC: Louisville & Indiana Railroad