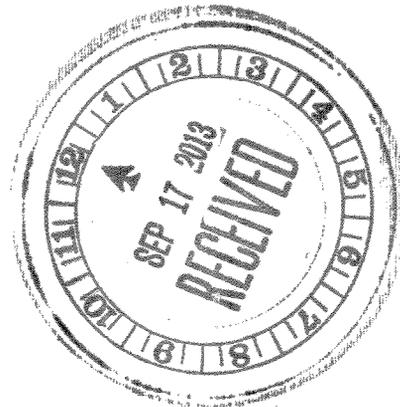




September 10, 2013

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

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 17, 2013
Part of
Public Record



RE: Finance Docket No. 35081 *SUB No. 2*

Dear Chief Brown,

On behalf of the South Dakota Soybean Association we submit this letter in support of a petition filed by the State of South Dakota, which seeks to enforce certain promises made by Canadian Pacific (CP) when it acquired the DM&E railroad.

Currently, CP is seeking a buyer for the track running through South Dakota. At this time, CP has not fully completed the upgrades that were agreed upon with the State of South Dakota. SDSA asks the Surface Transportation Board to prevent CP from selling its DM&E track until CP fulfills their commitment.

This railway is the only east-west line in the entire state and is vital to South Dakota agriculture. The South Dakota Soybean Association represents interests of more than 10,000 soybean farmers. Our state raises over 160,000,000 bushels of soybeans each year. Sixty-percent of that crop is exported via rail to ports in the Pacific Northwest before being shipped to Asia. Failure to complete much-needed upgrades to this critical transportation artery will jeopardize a large portion of South Dakota's international exports.

The South Dakota Soybean Association supports the petition filed by the State of South Dakota and appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on this important matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Paul Casper in black ink.

Paul Casper
SDSA President

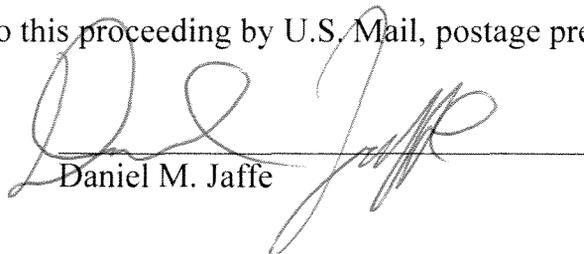
Handwritten signature of Jeremy Freking in black ink.

Jeremy Freking
SDSA Executive Director

cc: The Hon. Daniel R. Elliott III
The Hon. Ann D. Begeman
The Hon. Francis P. Mulvey

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