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July 31, 2012

232700

Mr. Daniel R. Elliott
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0011

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
July 31, 2012
Part of
Public Record

Re: STB Docket No. FD 35654

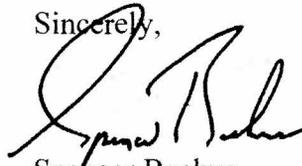
Dear Chairman Elliott,

On July 23, 2012, Genesee & Wyoming and RailAmerica jointly announced a proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming.

Having worked closely on railroad issues during my tenure in Congress, I have seen firsthand the work of the short line railroads owned and operated by Genesee & Wyoming and the positive impact these railroads have had in our state and throughout the country. Genesee & Wyoming is a recognized industry leader in rail safety and customer service and an integral part of our freight rail network. It has a long history of acquiring, investing in, and developing growth opportunities for short line railroads.

It is my belief that Genesee & Wyoming would greatly enhance the railroads currently operated by RailAmerica. As such, I support this proposal, and request that the Surface Transportation Board give this matter expedited review. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress

STB/tc