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TRANSPORTATION AND  
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July 30, 2012

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The Honorable Daniel Elliott  
Chairman  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
July 30, 2012  
Part of  
Public Record

Subject: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am writing in regards to the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. and to express my strong support for this proposal.

My understanding is that the proposed acquisition will provide for increased security, a strengthening of our freight rail infrastructure, and overall economic growth for the industry and those they serve. I understand that, as a result of the transaction of the two companies, there will not be an anticompetitive effect. Finally, it's encouraging to note that each of Genesee & Wyoming's current short lines are operating as local railroads with local managers who have decision-making authority over their rail operations. This is the strength of the short line industry nationally, and this acquisition will ensure continued strength moving forward.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my views. I look forward to an expedited review of the proposed acquisition by the Surface Transportation Board that is both full and fair in its consideration. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Rob Wehagen in my office at (202) 225-6511.

Sincerely,

Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress