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**Congress of the United States**  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
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NONPROLIFERATION, AND TRADE

July 31, 2012

232699

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

Subject: STB Docket No. FD 35654

Dear Chairman Elliott:

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

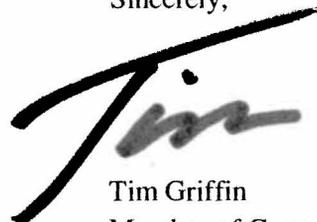
I write to express my support for the proposed acquisition of RailAmerica by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. Genesee & Wyoming short line railroad is integral to job creation and economic development in my district, and I believe this transaction will provide significant benefits both in Arkansas and across the country.

Genesee & Wyoming is focused on safety, customer service and local economic development. Their railroads provide the vital "first mile – last mile" of freight service to many areas of my district that otherwise would have no access to the national rail network. Safety is also a key area of focus for Genesee & Wyoming Inc. Two of its railroads won the 2011 Harriman rail safety awards, and their operations in Arkansas demonstrate this commitment to safety.

This company has a strong record of acquiring short lines throughout the United States, investing in the community and growing local business. We need partners like this to help grow private industry and create jobs in Arkansas.

Genesee & Wyoming Inc. will enhance the short line railroads now operated by RailAmerica in Arkansas, and I ask for an expedited review and approval of its acquisition by the Surface Transportation Board. Please apprise me of this review's progress by contacting Phil Jarvis in my Little Rock office at (501) 324-5941 or at Phil.Jarvis@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Tim Griffin  
Member of Congress