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March 19, 2007

TO: Surface Transportation Board
SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Participate in April 11 Public Hearing
DOCKET NO.: Ex Parte 671
ATTN: Barbara Saddler

I am executive director of RAIL Solution and wish to participate in the April 11 public hearing described in your March 6 announcement.

My intent is to speak for about 20 minutes, highlighting my prepared testimony, a draft of which is being forwarded with this letter. The final version will be filed by the April 4 deadline.

The focus of my remarks is the need for balanced transportation planning in the U.S., and the need for public infrastructure investment in the rail industry. Additional freight-carrying capacity can be provided at a fraction of the cost, both environmentally and economically, than by investing in more highways. Compelling public benefits can be identified, including improved energy efficiency, lower pollution, greater public safety, and far less need for new land.

Sincerely,

David L. Foster
Executive Director