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THE SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN
MARK H. SCHAUER
19TH DISTRICT
SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

August 3, 2007

The Honorable Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street S W
Washington DC 20423

Re Finance Docket No 35063
Michigan Central Railway, LLC – Acquisition and Operation Exemption – Lines of
Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Dear Secretary Williams,

Attached for filing are the original and ten copies of a Request for an Extension of Time
in the above-named proceeding. Please feel free to contact me or my staff, Lisa Dedden-Cooper
(517-373-1030), if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Schauer
State Senator - District 19
Michigan Senate

Enclosures

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Finance Docket No. 35063

MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILWAY, LLC – ACQUISITION AND OPERATION
EXEMPTION – LINES OF NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY

MICHIGAN STATE SENATOR MARK SCHAUER'S
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

I, Mark Schauer, State Senator for the 19th District and the Democratic Leader in the Michigan Senate, respectfully request that the Surface Transportation Board extend the period for review and comment in the above-named proceeding to allow sufficient time for good faith discussions to continue amongst the parties of record and other interested parties in the State of Michigan who would be affected by the proposed acquisition by Michigan Central Railway, LLC ("Michigan Central") of certain rail lines currently owned and operated by Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

As Michigan Central's Petition for Exemption notes at page 21, the Michigan Senate and Michigan House of Representatives, as well as other parties, have expressed concerns about this proposed acquisition, perhaps some of which, but certainly not all of which, have been based on incomplete or inaccurate information about the proposed acquisition.

At this time, significant questions and issues remain unresolved regarding the likely implications of the proposed acquisition on the people and the economy of the State of Michigan. These include questions and concerns regarding the effectiveness, safety, and maintenance of

these lines, which are an essential part of the State of Michigan's transportation infrastructure: regarding the impact on customers along the lines such as those in Michigan's agribusiness and growing economic sectors including the renewable fuels industry: regarding the impact on Amtrak passengers: and regarding the impact on the workers who will be affected by the acquisition, and their families and communities

Since July 13, 2007, when Michigan Central filed its Petition for Exemption and details of the proposed acquisition began to become available, my legislative colleagues and I have begun efforts to facilitate constructive discussions amongst the various parties the acquisition would affect, and I believe these discussions will ultimately result in benefits for all parties involved. However, more time is needed for members of the Legislature, our state Department of Transportation, business interests, and the general public to thoroughly review and evaluate the proposed acquisition, and then for us to bring parties together in a manner so as to build support for the proposal, and /or to determine what specific modifications to it may be needed

For these reasons I respectfully urge the Surface Transportation Board to extend the time allowed for review and comment in this matter

Respectfully submitted,



Mark H. Schauer
State Senator – 19th District
Michigan Senate
P O Box 30036
Lansing MI 48909

Dated August 3, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 3rd day of August, 2007, copies of "Michigan State Senator Mark Schauer's Request for Extension of Time" in this proceeding were served via first-class mail, postage pre-paid, upon the following.

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Carl M Miller Miller Law Office PO Box 332 New Haven, IN 46774	Levin, Honorable Carl United States Senate Washington, DC 20510	Honorable Pam Byrnes Michigan House Of Representatives 52nd District P. O Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909
Whims, Michael J Michigan Association Of Railroad Passengers 1014 Iroquois Boulevard Royal Oak, MI 48067	Moreno, Jeffrey O Thompson Hine LLP 1920 N Street, Nw, Suite 800 Washington, Dc 20036, DC 20036-1600	Honorable Martin J Griffin Michigan House Of Representatives P O Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909
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Mark Schauer, State Senator