February 5, 2016

The Honorable Daniel R. Elliott III
Chairman
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman
Vice-Chairman
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Debra Miller
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Surface Transportation Board Members:

The Blair County Chamber of Commerce is an organization of 1,054 businesses representing more than 40,000 employees. One of those businesses, Norfolk Southern Corporation, is a major employer in our region and has an outstanding reputation for quality and service. They are also a valuable community partner that has made a considerable impact on our local economy.

The recent attempt to purchase Norfolk Southern by Canadian Pacific Railway is a matter of great concern to our business community. Norfolk Southern has been an incredibly efficient freight rail hauler that has helped to make the mid-Atlantic region one of the nation’s most prosperous, due in large part to transportation amenities. It would not be in the country’s best interest to jeopardize such an important aspect of a system functioning effectively.

We strongly oppose Canadian Pacific Railway’s proposed acquisition.

Sincerely,

The Chamber

Joseph D. Hurd
President/CEO