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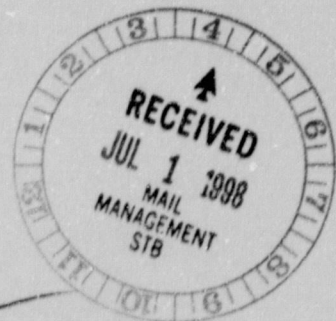
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Ray M. Bowen



June 26, 1998

Mr. Vernon O. Williams
Secretary, Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Room 700
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Finance Docket No. 32760 (Sub. No. 7); Oversight Proceeding

Dear Secretary Williams:

The purpose of this letter is to describe a very concrete way in which the UP/SP merger has benefited Texas A&M University. For many years, a Union Pacific rail line has run directly through the campus of Texas A&M University. This line, which connects Bryan and College Station, runs immediately beside the Aggie football stadium and in the vicinity of the newly opened George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. The University has sought for many years to re-route the rail line to avoid this troublesome divide in the heart of our campus.

Since the UP/SP merger, UP has expressed a willingness to undertake such a rerouting, by creating a detour route. The merger has created an opportunity to address this longstanding problem by a combination of the former UP and SP lines in the area, and UP has shown itself open to pursuing this opportunity. Of course, the opening of such a detour route will require funding and community approval, but we are optimistic because of UP's cooperative approach that these efforts will bear fruit.

Although we are aware that there have been some problems in UP's service since the merger, we are confident that the benefits of the merger will outweigh the inconvenience caused by these transitional difficulties. UP has demonstrated its commitment to resolving temporary difficulties associated with the merger, and to working with the communities that it serves through such projects as rerouting a rail line around Bryan and College Station. We believe this reflects UP's commitment to make the merger a success.

Sincerely,

Ray M. Bowen
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