

TROUTMAN SANDERS LLP ATLAW TORNEYS Vistoro - 1 1300 | STREET, N W SUITE 500 EAST WASHINGTON, D.C. 2001-3314 OCT 0 1 1997 TELEPHONE 202-274-2950 FACSIMILE 202-274-2994 F. 7 5-90 202-274-2959 Sandra L. Brown September 30, 1997 The Honorable Vernon A. Williams

The Honorable Vernon A. William Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, NW Room 711 Washington, D.C. 20423

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RE: Finance Docket No. 33388, CSX Corporation and CSX Transportation, Inc., Norfolk Southern Corporation and Norfolk Southern Railway Company -- Control and Operating Leases/Agreements -- Conrail Inc. and Consolidated Rail Corporation

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above captioned docket are the original and twenty-five copies of the Verified Statement of No Significant Impact (NYSE&G-13) for New York State Electric and Gas. Also enclosed is a 3.5-inch diskette containing the text of this pleading.

Please date stamp the enclosed extra copy of the pleading and return it to the messenger for our files.

Sincerely yours,

Sandra L. Brown

Attorney for New York State Electric & Gas

Enclosures cc: The Honorable Jacob Leventhal All Parties of Record

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BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FINANCE DOCKET NO. 33388 (Sub No. 35)

CSX CORPORATION AND CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC., NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORPC 'ATION AND NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY -- CONTROL AND OPERATING LEASES/AGREEMENTS --CONRAIL INC. AND CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION

VERIFIED STATEMENT OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

WILLIAM A. MULLINS SANDRA L. BROWN TROUTMAN SANDERS LLP 1300 I STREET, N.W. SUITE 500 EAST WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3314 202 274-2950 (PHONE) 202-274-2994 (FAX)

NYSEG-13

ORIGINAL

ATTORNEYS FOR NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC AND GAS

September 29, 1997

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

NYSEG-

FINANCE DOCKET NO. 33388 (Sub No. 35)

CSX CORPORATION AND CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC., NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORPORATION AND NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY -- CONTROL AND OPERATING LEASES/AGREEMENTS --CONRAIL INC. AND CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION

VERIFIED STATEMENT OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

My name is Alfred O. Beers and I am a Project Environmental Specialist at New York State Electric & Gas. (NYSEG). I have prepared this Verified Statement in connection with the request under Decision No. 6, served May 30, 1997 in this proceeding, for information concerning the effect of NYSEG's Responsive Application on the environment.

Based on the information available to me at this time, it is my judgment that the rail traffic reasonably likely to be associated with NYSEG's Responsive Application will not result in any significant changes in operations of the lines at issue, as described in the Description of Anticipated Responsive Application submitted as NYSEG-6 in this proceeding on August 22, 1997. The trackage rights transaction requested by NYSEG is only a replacement of current service and does not in any way increase or change the current service on the rail lines at issue. Furthermore, any environmental impact information dealing with the overall result of this control transaction and required by the Board may be obtained from Applicants' environmental documentation.

Pursuant to Decision No. 6, in this proceeding, served May 30, 1997, I certify that the transaction described in NYSEG-6 will not involve changes that exceed the thresholds established in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(4) or (5). Specifically, I certify that the transaction

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described in NYSEG-6 will not involve either the diversion from rail to motor carriage of more than (A) 1,000 rail carloads a year, or (B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line (49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(4)) on the one hand, or (A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 100 percent or an increase of at least eight trains per day on any segment of the affected line, (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100 percent, or (C) an increase in truck traffic of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment (40 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)), on the other hand. See 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(c)(2).

The trackage rights transaction proposed in NYSEG's Description of Responsive Application will not result in changes in carrier operations that exceed the above-listed thresholds. In addition, environmental documentation is not normally required for trackage rights transactions. <u>See</u> 49 C.F.R. § 1165.6(c)(4). Therefore, no additional environmental documentation is required for NYSEG's Responsive Application to be filed October 21, 1997. <u>See</u> Decision No. 6 in this proceeding, served May 30, 1997.

Transactions involving trackage rights actions which will not substantially change the level of maintenance of the railroad property are exempt from the historic reporting requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(*e*) <u>see</u> 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(*b*)(3). Since the rail traffic reasonably likely to be associated with NYSEG's Responsive Application will not result in any significant changes in operations of the lines at issue, NYSEG does not reasonably believe that the level of maintenance of the railroad property will substantially change. Therefore, a historic report is not required to be filed with NYSEG's Responsive Application to be filed October 21, 1997. <u>See</u> 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8.

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VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)))SS.COUNTY OF BROOME)

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I, Alfred O. Beers, being duly sworn, state that I have read the foregoing statement, that I know its contents and that those contents are true as stated.

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this $2\ell^{+h}$ day of September, 1997.

Notary Public

MARIA A. EVANS Notary Public, State of New York No. 4727382 Residing in Broome County My commission expires Dec. 31, 1995

My commission Expires: 12-31-98

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing "Verified Statement of No Significant Impact" (NYSEG-13) was served this 30th day of September, 1997, by facsimile transmission to Applicants' representatives, and by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to Judge Leventhal and all parties of record in STB Finance Docket No. 33388.

WHLIAM A. MULLINS SANDRA L. BROWN TROUTMAN SANDERS LLP 1300 I STREET, N.W. SUITE 500 EAST WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3314 202 274-2950 (PHONE) 202-274-2994 (FAX)

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