

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 15, 2015

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

The Honorable Debra Miller, Vice Chairman  
U.S. Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman, Commissioner  
U.S. Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller and Commissioner Begeman:

We write to you in response to Canadian Pacific Railway's proposal to establish a voting trust and merge with Norfolk Southern Corporation. As members of the Illinois Congressional delegation, we recognize the potential impact this proposal could have on our state's and our nation's freight rail network.

As you know, all seven Class I railroads operate in the State of Illinois. The Illinois rail network is crucial to the movement of agricultural goods and products, energy resources, merchandise and other goods that are shipped across the United States and around the world. Thus, any harm or significant interruptions to shippers' ability to move their goods would be of concern to us.

Illinois is also home to the largest rail hub in North America, Chicago. Rail companies operating in Chicago must coordinate closely and carefully in order to maximize efficiency and safety. Illinois and our nation rely on a strong and coordinated freight rail industry in order to keep our economy moving forward. Therefore, any consolidation in the freight rail industry must not unduly disrupt the efficient flow of the Chicago network, or reduce the current competitive options for the routing of freight through this gateway.

Congress has given the Surface Transportation Board (STB) the exclusive jurisdiction to review and approve mergers and acquisitions in the railroad industry. Therefore, it is also vital that the Board ensure that no pre-merger attempts to advance control of one of the remaining seven Class I railroads are allowed before the Board can properly examine this proposal.

We ask that the STB thoroughly review this proposal and specifically consider any potential negative impacts to the state of Illinois and the nation's railroad network.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



John Shimkus  
Member of Congress



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Robert J. Dold  
Member of Congress



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Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



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Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



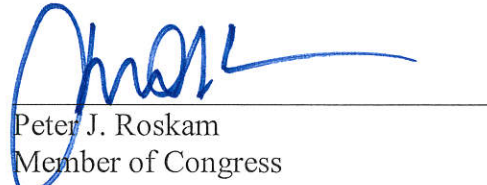
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Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



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Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress



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Peter J. Roskam  
Member of Congress