

February 15, 2016

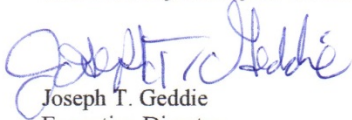
Surface Transportation Board
Chairman Daniel R. Elliott, III
Vice Chairman Deb Miller
Member Ann D. Begeman

Dear Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller, and Member Begeman:

I have been Executive Director of the North Mississippi Industrial Development Association for the past eleven years, a regional economic development organization serving 28 counties. Prior to my current position I served as Manager of Economic Development for an investor owned utility serving 59 counties in North and South Carolina for 26 years. During this time, I have had the opportunity to depend upon, and work with Norfolk Southern and many of their employees on several economic development projects that provided countless jobs, millions of dollars of investment, and a better quality of life for all. In all three states they provided excellent support and a total commitment as a rail provider and as a team member to bring these projects to fruition.

I strongly fear if CP's intentions to take over NS by merger or by a proxy fight that many jobs and investment dollars, as well as a better quality of life will not have the chance to develop for millions due to the expertise provided by Norfolk Southern will no longer be available.

Thank all of you for your consideration of not allowing this to occur.



Joseph T. Geddie
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