

JUDY WARD, MEMBER

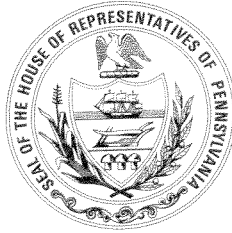
80th Legislative District

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February 29, 2016

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

Honorable Ann Begeman
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 Chairman Elliott and Surface Transportation Board Members,

I write to you today with great concern over the proposed Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) acquisition of Norfolk Southern (NS).

As State Representative of the PA 80th District, my legislative district encompasses most of Blair County. Although the NS Rail car shops are not in my legislative district, many of my constituents are employed there. The economic impact of 1,200 family sustaining jobs in this area must be a key factor in looking at this proposal.

Our region has suffered, as many have, with the loss of manufacturing jobs. Losing a leading employer would be a devastating blow for the economy of this region. This would result in an outward migration of families from our area.

Also at stake is the future of the local railroads in general. We have short-line railroads that service rural parts of our community. These businesses and farms depend on the short-line railroads to deliver products to them.

I ask that you take great care and concern when you consider this proposal from CP to acquire NS. There is quite a bit at stake for Blair County and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Ward". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Judy Ward
State Representative - 80th District

CC: Governor Tom Wolf
Congressman Bill Shuster
Senator Pat Toomey
Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
Brent Vernon
Senator John Eichelberger
Representative John McGinnis
Patrick Miller
Blair County Commissioners
Mayor Matt Pacifico
City Manager Marla Marcinko
Logan Township Supervisors