



February 11, 2016

Chairman Daniel R. Elliott, III
Vice Chairman Deb Miller
Member Ann D. Begeman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-000

2016 MAR -1 AM 10:52
OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN

Dear Board Members:

Republic Services Recycling of Eastern Missouri is a division of Republic Services Inc. We are a materials recovery facility that recycles over 12,000 tons per month of goods from both households and business. At a minimum one fourth of this material leaves our facility via the NS rail to many paper mills throughout the US and abroad. Without this service our ability to move our product on a consistent basis, to end user otherwise not financially feasible to reach by truck, would be damaged.

Given our need to have consistent, uninterrupted rail service, our facility in Hazelwood, MO is greatly opposed to any consideration of consolidating the Norfolk Southern with the Canadian Pacific. Over the past several years we have doubled in size, and over the next years have plans to continue to expand our services and grow our volumes. We are confident that the NS will be there for us, as they have been in the past. We need this reliability. Personally I have ran several recycling facilities, and the poor service provided by other rail carriers has greatly impacted the operation of these plants. In the 16 years I have been in this building the NS has continued to perform. We cannot have it any other way.

I see no value in this merger, and fear that that level of service we must have to move these recyclable goods to end markets would be greatly compromised. We hope that the Surface Transportation Board will consider our plea.

Sincerely,

Brent J Batliner
General Manager

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