

James "Jim" H. Rozier, Jr. SCDOT Commission Chairman First Congressional District 1610 Dennis Blvd Moncks Corner, SC 29461

January 4, 2016

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

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman Vice Chairman United States Surface Transportation Board 395 East Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Debra Miller United States Surface Transportation Board 395 East Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001

## RE: Canadian Pacific Railway and Norfolk Southern Corporation

Dear Chairman Elliott and Surface Transportation Board Members:

I have been following the recent public developments between Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) and Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS) with great interest. After reading CP's proposal letter dated November 9, 2015 and listening to recent public comments made by Mr. E. Hunter Harrison, CP's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), I have significant concerns that CP's unsolicited proposal to acquire NS, if allowed to proceed, would have a negative impact on the State of South Carolina and for the United States of America.

The CP CEO E. Hunter Harrison made statements about reductions to NS physical plant and employment levels on November 19, 2015 that indicate severe cuts in resources will be a primary focus. These comments lead me to believe that there would be negative implications for employment and service levels if a merger were to occur.

Norfolk Southern has been a great partner to the State. It is the home to over 650 NS employees, who operate 762 miles of tract integral to the State's industry and communities. I am concerned that a combination between CP and NS would have a negative impact as outlined above. I also have significant concerns regarding the impact



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that a railroad merger would have on the many businesses in South Carolina and across the country that depend on railroads to get their products to market. Finally, I am concerned that a cost-cutting transaction as proposed by CP would result in decreased investment in our transportation infrastructure.

Accordingly, I do not believe any major railroad combination requires a compelling benefit to freight customers, which has not been demonstrated at all by the unilateral CP move on NS. As such, I intend to follow future developments between CP and NS closely and urge the Surface Transportation Board to do the same.

Thank you for your careful consideration on this important matter.

Respectfully yours,

James 'Jim' H. Rozier, Jr. SCDOT Commission Chairman First Congressional District

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