



House of Representatives
State of South Carolina

Rita Allison

District No. 36 – Spartanburg and Greenville Counties
P.O. Box 93
Lyman, SC 29365
email: RitaAllison@schouse.gov

429A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Tel. (803) 734-3053 (O)
(864) 439-6255 (H)
(864) 909-1092 (C)

Committee:

Chair:
House Education and Public Works Committee

December 29, 2015

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

The Honorable Ann D. Begeman, Vice Chairman
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:

On December 21, 2015, Senator Larry Grooms, Chair of the South Carolina Senate's Transportation Committee, wrote to express his objection to Canadian Pacific Railway's proposed acquisition of the Norfolk Southern Corporation. I fully concur in Senator Groom's concerns, and believe that the acquisition of Norfolk Southern (NS) by Canadian Pacific (CP) would cause harm both to South Carolina and the nation.

In order to ensure strong competition and the benefits that arise from multiple choices for rail customers, it is vital that we have strong rail companies throughout the country. Unfortunately, CP has already indicated that should it acquire NS, there will be a loss of physical plant facilities and jobs. If this occurs, the service provided to South Carolina and the companies that call this state home would be significantly reduced at a time when improved rail transportation is vital.


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South Carolina and Norfolk Southern have a long and productive history together. Losing this relationship when the need for rail service is growing would hurt South Carolina and similarly situated states at the worst possible time. This state is a leader in manufacturing, and a loss of any transportation outlet could be devastating.

Along with Senator Grooms, I also intend to follow this issue closely, and urge the Surface Transportation Board to consider the concerns that Senator Grooms and I express.

Thank you for your service to the Board.

Because I Care,



Rita Allison

Cc: Senator Larry K. Grooms
Chairman Senate Transportation Committee