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February 9, 2016

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

The purpose of this letter is to voice my disapproval of the proposed merger of the Canadian Pacific Rail and Norfolk Southern. Quite frankly I believe that the rail shippers' community has grown weary of more rail mergers.

The very fact that the Canadian Pacific is considering a takeover of Norfolk Southern has already sparked endless discussion, worried shippers and may even have taken the management team and employees of the Norfolk Southern's eye off the ball. Ground crews concerned about their future are less like to be focused on safety. *This is something that the STB can ill afford.*

I have been involved with the movement of commerce on rails for the past 30 years. The current number of Class One Railroads is correct. The NS is known for being safe, conservative and willing to put profits back into their property in order to maintain a high level of service, Rail Shippers like this! Our company recently invested several million dollars in a new factory which connects to the Norfolk Southern. If we would have had this knowledge that the Canadian Pacific was considering a takeover of the Norfolk Southern, our decision on where to build may have been different.

I ask that you carefully consider this situation and do what is best for the rail shippers of America and leave well enough alone. I have also heard rumors that there is a consideration to place the NS in trust and having the CP run the NS before the STB has given approval. This idea is easily seen through and should not be permitted.

Please keep the Norfolk Southern intact. I see no benefit to the rail shippers of America if this merger would be allowed to proceed.

Thank you most respectfully for your careful deliberations of this most important issue.

Sincerely,

J. Bryan Clelland  
Corporate Purchasing & Logistics Manager