

West Plains

Mining LLC

February 15, 2016

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

Vice Chairman Deb Miller
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Member Ann D. Begeman
United States Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN

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Chairman Elliott and Surface Transportation Board Members:

As a representative of West Plains Mining LLC, I am writing to voice our opposition to a proposal by Canadian Pacific Railway Limited (CP) to acquire the Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS).

West Plains Mining is in the final development proceedings with NS for a network of aggregate distribution points within the Midwest. We have been impressed with Norfolk Southern in all aspects from general management, planning, engineering and marketing functions. We feel that an acquisition by CP will be detrimental to any future planning, capital investment, and marketability functions taken by our company.

On the macro level, it is our opinion that a CP acquisition will not benefit any of our current long-term operation or marketing goals in any aspect. A consolidated system will create a probable environment of deteriorating service levels and capital investment.

We appreciate the Surface Transportation Board's careful consideration of this matter and the opportunity to voice our concerns.

Sincerely,



William A. Woodward
President, West Plains Mining LLC

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