



300161

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
December 12, 2019
Part of
Public Record

December 10, 2019

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: *Application by Soo Line Corporation for STB approval to acquire the Central Maine & Quebec Railway*

Reference Number: FD 36368

Dear Board Members:

J. D. Irving Limited Sawmills submit this letter in strong support of the application filed by Soo Line Corporation ("Soo") to acquire the Central Maine & Quebec Railway (CMQR).

J. D. Irving Limited Sawmills are a shipper of lumber products that depends on reliable and sustainable rail service over the CMQR. We ship lumber to several customers in the US and this rail service is key to maintaining the flow of our products.

We support the proposed acquisition because it:

- Preserves and enhances overall competition in the Northeast surface transportation market;
- Will result in more efficient, seamless rail service;
- Provides us with enhanced access to markets including to export markets by connecting CP's network to Atlantic ports;
- Produces no competitive harms, as it is an end-to-end transaction; and
- Ensures continued viability of CMQR

For the above reasons, J. D. Irving Limited Sawmill Group strongly supports the application of Soo before the STB to acquire CMQR. We respectfully request your expedited review and approval of this minor transaction.

Sincerely,

J. D. Irving Limited Sawmills Group

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JPelletier", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jerome Pelletier
Vice President

Please note that all the Parties of Record for docket FD 36368 have received a copy of the document (letter of support for Soo Acquisition of CMQR). The Parties of Record include:

Party Type	Filed By	Address	Email Address	Filed For
Party of Record	David F. Rifkind	1775 Penn Ave, NW Suite 800 Washington, DC 20006 United States Tel: 202.969.4218	david.rifkind@stinson.com	Soo Line Corporation
Party of Record	James A. Theriault	185 International Drive Portsmouth, NH 03801 United States Tel: 8002251560	jtheriault@spragueenergy.com	Sprague Energy