



185 International Drive
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801
(800) 225.1560

300126

December 3, 2019

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
December 9, 2019
Part of
Public Record

RE: *Application by Soo Line Corporation for STB approval to acquire the* FD 36368
Central Maine & Quebec Railway

Dear Board Members:

Sprague Energy submits this letter in strong support of the application filed by Soo Line Corporation ("Soo") to acquire the Central Maine & Quebec Railway (CMQR).

Sprague Energy operates at the Port of Searsport and operations at our facilities, which are designed for safe, convenient access and service, depend on reliable and sustainable rail service from the CMQR.

Sprague Energy supports 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 customers 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, Sprague Energy 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Therriault".

James A. Therriault
Vice President Materials Handling,

Cc: David F. Rifkind
via e-mail david.rifkind@stinson.com