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June 18, 2020

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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North Country
Small Business
Council

Adirondack Coast
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North Country
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Québec-New York
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RE: Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company - Acquisition and Operation -
Certain Rail Lines of CSX Transportation, Inc. in Onondaga, Oswego,
Jefferson, St. Lawrence, and Franklin Counties, New York
(Docket Number FD 36347)

Dear Ms. Brown:

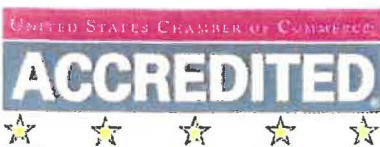
The North Country Chamber of Commerce is the largest business and economic development organization in northern New York, representing more than 4,200 employers across multiple counties. We play a leading strategic role in both transportation and U.S.-Canada cross border commerce in our region, seeking to enhance both as key aims in building prosperity.

With the foregoing in mind, we are strongly supportive of the pending petition by Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company (B&LE) for partial reconsideration of the Board's April 6 decision in this proceeding. We are very concerned that the transaction cannot go forward unless such reconsideration is granted, and this transaction is, in our considered and experienced view, crucial to maximizing the power of rail in and through northern New York, simultaneously strengthening what for our region is the all-important connectivity between the U.S. and Canada.

We regard this transaction as a top economic priority for the North Country region and encourage favorable action by the Board, granting B&LE's petition for partial reconsideration. A copy of this letter has been served on parties of record.

Sincerely,

Garry Douglas
President and CEO



A Strong Partner for Strong Business in the North Country

P.O. Box 310, 7061 Rt. 9, Plattsburgh, NY 12901-0310 Tel: 518-563-1000 Fax: 518-563-1028

Email: info@northcountrychamber.com Web Site: northcountrychamber.com



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

June 30, 2020

To: Mr. Kenyatta Clay
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Docket Number FD 36347
Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company - Acquisition and operation -
Certain Rail Lines of CSX Transportation, Inc. in Onondaga, Oswego,
Jefferson, Saint Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York

I certify that I have this day served copies of this document upon all parties of record in
this proceeding (by method of service consistent with 49 C.F.R., ss 1104.12(a)).

Respectfully,

Garry Douglas
President and CEO
North Country Chamber of Commerce

June 30, 2020

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