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WILLIAM J. BARLOW, JR. MAYOR

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Office of Proceedings
July 13, 2020
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Public Record

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The Honorable Ann D. Begeman
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Martin J. Oberman
Vice Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs
Board Member
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: *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 (Docket No. FD 36347)*

Dear Chairman Begeman, Vice Chairman Oberman, and Commissioner Fuchs:

I am writing today in support of the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company's ("B&LE") request for partial reconsideration (designated as BLE-8) of Decision No. 4, served on April 6, 2020 to the Surface Transportation Board (STB). As Mayor of the City of Oswego, I respectfully ask the Board to approve this request so the transaction can move forward.

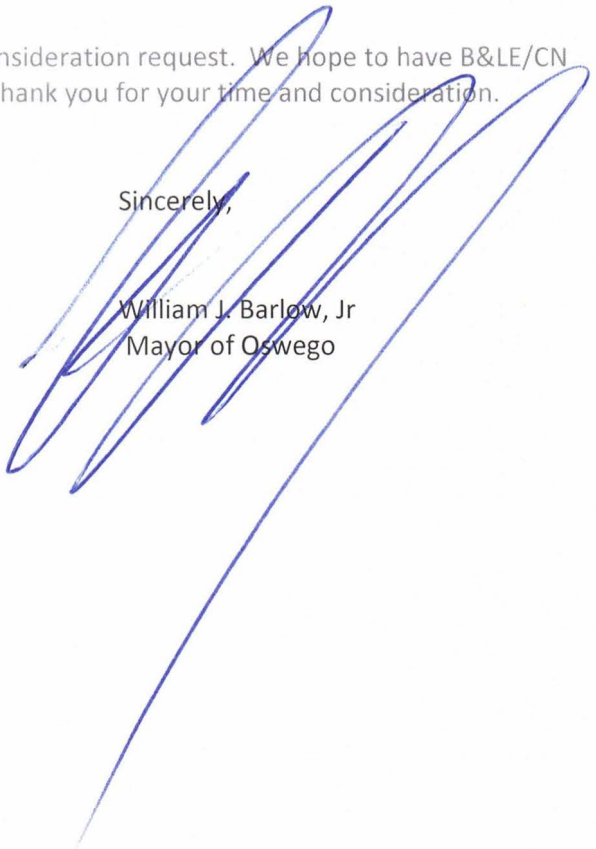
As Mayor of the City of Oswego, we are working to create new economic opportunities for this important region – future growth is built on the backbone of our state's transportation infrastructure. The transaction before the STB will bring yet another Class 1 freight railroad into New York State in earnest, opening the door to new service options, routes, and competition. It will help safely and reliably link New York businesses to markets around the world.

I am pleased to see that CN has already begun proactively reaching out to customers, stakeholders, and rail labor along the line to discuss new ways to work together. I hope these conversations can continue and recognize the important labor protections in the agreement. As stated in the reconsideration filing, labor protections under this agreement would be lost if the transaction does not proceed and CSX instead decides to sell to a Class III or a non-carrier.

I respectfully ask the Board to approve this partial reconsideration request. We hope to have B&LE/CN as a new neighbor and constituent in the near future. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

William J. Barlow, Jr
Mayor of Oswego

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long trailing stroke, is positioned to the right of the typed name.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have, this 13th day of July, 2020, caused a true copy of the foregoing letter from William J. Barlow, Jr., Mayor of the City of Oswego, to The Honorable Ann D. Begeman, Chairman, The Honorable Martin J. Oberman, and The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs, Board Member, to be served upon all known parties of record in this proceeding.

/s/ James M. Guinivan