

JAMES COMER
1ST DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

1037 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3115

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1701

DISTRICT OFFICES:
200 NORTH MAIN STREET
SUITE F
TOMPKINSVILLE, KY 42167
300 SOUTH 3RD STREET
PADUCAH, KY 42003
67 NORTH MAIN STREET
MADISONVILLE, KY 42431

301162

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
October 8, 2020
Part of
Public Record

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board Office of Proceedings
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing regarding the Petition for Exemption filed with the Surface Transportation Board by the Ken Tenn Regional Rail Partners, Inc. (KTRRP), seeking authority to construct and operate 12.2 miles of new railroad in Western Kentucky and Northwest Tennessee. KTRRP has also informed me they intend to rehabilitate an existing segment of deteriorated common carrier rail line currently operated by the TennKen Railroad and the Indiana Business Railroad, Inc.

Located within 600 miles of two-thirds of the nation's population and at the convergence of four major rivers and regional and national highways, Western Kentucky is an ideal location for investments in transportation networks and industrial development. If approved, the additional 12.2 miles of railroad will support regional economic development by providing local industrial and distribution facilities with easier, cost-effective access to Class I railroads and the planned I-69 "Corridor of the Future."

KTRRP has also informed me that this project will have long-term benefits for our region through the eventual creation of a 46.1-mile loop providing connections to the Canadian National Railway along this route at both Dyersburg and Rives, Tennessee. These access points will provide the Hickman Fulton County Riverport, the new 170-acre Enterprise Park at Fulton and local industries with direct connections to the Canadian National Railway.

I am grateful for KTRRP's efforts to modernize our nation's infrastructure and foster further economic growth in the 1st District of Kentucky. I am confident KTRRP's proposal would support greater regional economic development by enhancing the area's abundant manufacturing, shipping and distribution resources.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this request. Please contact Sarah Coffman in my office, via email (sarah.coffman@mail.house.gov), if I may be of additional assistance regarding the importance of this project.

Sincerely,



James Comer
Member of Congress