



ARKANSAS-OKLAHOMA RAILROAD, INC.

301247

November 3, 2020

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W., Room #100
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 3, 2020
Part of
Public Record

RE: STB Docket No AB-1296X

Ms. Brown:

Despite the fact that the R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC ("Corman") response to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Railroad, Inc. ("AOK") and North East Tennessee Railroad Authority ("Railroad Authority") request for Mediation of this proceeding was argumentative and included inappropriate comments, AOK and the Railroad Authority were encouraged that Corman gave mediation serious consideration.

To clarify the record, AOK has repeatedly reached out to Corman to attempt to resolve this matter (which is by its very nature, a dispute), to no avail. Corman now states it is "open to whatever proposals AOK would like it to consider." We consider that a positive development that the mediator could build upon.

Therefore, while Corman's self-serving proposed conditions make it less likely the mediator will be able to achieve a settlement, AOK and the Railroad Authority firmly believe that getting the parties together to discuss settlement opens the door to progress. AOK and the Railroad Authority are willing to enter into mediation without pre-conditions, or with any conditions the Board deems just.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Daniel A. LaKemper

General Counsel.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a copy of this letter was served electronically on November 3, 2020, to each of the parties of record at their email addresses of record in this proceeding

/s/ Daniel A. LaKemper

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