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COMMITTEES:

Committee on Foreign Affairs

SUBCOMMITTEES:

Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia and Nonproliferation
Middle East, North Africa and Global
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Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure

SUBCOMMITTEES:

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Highways and Transit
Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

301692

February 26, 2021

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 1, 2021
Part of
Public Record

Re: Docket No. AB-1296X, R.J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC – Abandonment Exemption – in
Scott, Campbell, and Anderson Counties, Tenn.

Chief Cynthia Brown:

I write in support of renewed consideration of the offer of financial assistance (OFA) provided by the
Arkansas-Oklahoma (AOK) Railroad Co. for 41.05 miles of railway in Anderson, Campbell, and
Scott Counties in Tennessee.

As you know, following R.J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC's (RJC) notice of its intention to
abandon a railroad line extending from Oneida, Tenn. to Devonia, Tenn in March 2020, AOK has
been working to gain approval of an OFA to purchase the line. If successful, AOK will reopen the
line for freight service, and may eventually work to utilize the line to bring additional economic
investment in the region.

Importantly, the effort to preserve this historic rail line is supported by mayors of Anderson,
Campbell, and Scott Counties, as well as the North East Tennessee Rail Authority which was
established to secure economic benefits and provide for the continuation of railroad services in these
counties.

As a native of East Tennessee and Representative of Tennessee's Second Congressional District,
which includes a portion of Campbell County, I understand the positive economic impact of this rail
line and encourage the Surface Transportation Board to reverse its decision to reject AOK's OFA.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Tim Burchett
MEMBER OF CONGRESS