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April 12, 2021

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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
April 12, 2021
Part of
Public Record

Re: **Docket No. FD 36503**
Grand Elk Railroad, Inc. -- Acquisition Exemption --
Lines of Wisconsin Central Ltd. in Michigan

Docket No. FD 36504
Fox Valley & Lake Superior Rail System, L.L.C. -- Acquisition and
Operation Exemption -- Lines of Wisconsin Central Ltd. in Wisconsin

Dear Ms. Brown:

Wisconsin Central Ltd. ("WCL"), the seller in the proposed transaction which is the subject of the above-captioned proceedings, has reviewed and supports the timeline suggested today by Fox Valley & Lake Superior Rail System, L.L.C. ("FOXY") and Grand Elk Railroad, Inc. ("GDLK") for considering any requests for stay in these matters.

By filing their notices of exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1150.31 and 1150.41, respectively, well in advance of the normal 30-day effectiveness date for such notices, FOXY and GDLK have permitted the Board full and adequate opportunity to dispose of any formal requests for stay in an orderly manner, without the need for administrative or housekeeping stay. The FOXY and GDLK notices will not become effective prior to May 31, 2021 -- 60 days after the required labor notice certifications were made under 49 C.F.R. §§ 1150.32(e) and 1150.42(e). As FOXY and GDLK have indicated in their notices, the parties do not intend to consummate the proposed transaction until June 30, 2021, and WCL formally commits to the Board that it will not proceed with the transaction prior to that date. That extended period will allow the Board to issue a decision on any petition for stay by June 1st, as FOXY/GDLK have requested, and also to issue a decision on the control petition for exemption in Docket No. FD 36506 by June 7th, as FOXY's parent has requested, with an appropriate effectiveness date.

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As outlined by FOXY and GDLK, *Federal Register* publications in these dockets on April 21, 2021 and the due date for any requests for stay on April 28, 2021 would be fully consistent with the timelines contemplated by 49 C.F.R. §§ 1150.32(b), (c) and 1150.42(b), (c). WCL is agreeable to a May 5, 2021 due date for its reply to any stay request. The Board would then have nearly four weeks to consider the matter and issue a decision by June 1st.

I certify that a copy of this filing has been served by electronic mail on all parties of record in these dockets.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Thomas J. Litwiler*

Thomas J. Litwiler
Attorney for Wisconsin Central Ltd.

TJL:tl

cc: Kathryn J. Gainey, Esq., CN
David F. Rifkind, Esq.
All Parties of Record