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By e-filing

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

Re: Finance Docket No. 36514, *Canadian National Railway Company, Grand Trunk Corporation, and CN's Rail Operating Subsidiaries -- Control -- Kansas City Southern, the Kansas City Southern Railway Company, Gateway Eastern Railway Company, and the Texas Mexican Railway Company*

Dear Ms. Brown:

Hereby forwarded for filing in the above proceeding is a Statement of my client, Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad LLC, d.b.a. Rock Island Rail, in support of control of the Kansas City Southern Railway Company and affiliates by Canadian National Railway Company and affiliates.

A copy of this Support Statement is being served on all parties of record..

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Thomas F. McFarland
Thomas F. McFarland
*Attorney for Chicago, Rock Island &
Pacific Railroad LLC,
d.b.a. Rock Island Rail*

TMcF:mg:1807\efSTB3

cc: All parties of record
Mr. Robert Riley, *by e-mail to robert.riley@rockislandrail.com*



April 28, 2021

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

Re: FD 36514, Canadian National Railway Company, Grand Trunk Corporation, and CN's Rail Operating Subsidiaries—Control—Kansas City Southern, the Kansas City Southern Railway Company, Gateway Eastern Railway Company, and the Texas Mexican Railway Company

Dear Ms. Brown:

My name is Robert Riley, CEO of Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad LLC—dba Rock Island Rail—headquartered in Hernando, MS. We are an independent freight railroad and rail services management company offering freight services, transloading, railcar storage, and industrial development opportunities with operations in Mississippi with connection to the CN. The strong partnership between CN's network and Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad LLC operations allows industrial shippers to grow their business.

We believe that a combination of CN and KCS would help us to win in our markets. CN's strong track record of success with superior service, intermodal and safety gives us confidence that a combined CN-KCS would be best positioned to serve our needs. Additionally, CN's successful track record of acquisitions over the past 25+ years also provides assurance that CN will effectively and seamlessly be able to integrate and partner with KCS.

Rock Island Rail's partnership with CN has driven tangible benefits for our customers; and CN's acquisition of KCS will allow our partnership to offer an enhanced service to our customers. While KCS and CN work together to provide joint routes—which remain among the transportation options for Rock Island Rail—as separate companies they have not been able to offer the kind of seamless service Rock Island Rail seeks to offer our customers.

While CN's unique three-coast network and our partnership with CN has provided significant benefits to

our rail lines and our ability to offer our services, the KCS-CN merger will further enhance this reach and in turn, our product offerings. While there is some overlap in the networks, the overlap between CN and KCS networks is very limited and additional connection points will facilitate the combined railway to create new, innovative transportation solutions and competitive lanes. The CN-KCS merger will provide shorter distances on many key routes.

We have been impressed with CN's commitment to innovation in the rail industry as well as their demonstration of being an industry leader in fuel consumptions, sustainability, and safety. CN's consistent track record in innovative solutions such as the automated track inspection technology, and car inspections portals will enhance safety, speed, and reliability of the KCS network.

The combined Company would create a network with enhanced end-to-end service, reducing dwell time on our customers' cars, which will result in a faster, safer, and more economical rail option. This will also allow Rock Island Rail to capture business from customers who currently rely on trucks for their shipping needs. The proposed KCS-CN merger would also provide shorter distances on many key routes. We are hopeful about this transaction as a CN-KCS rail will be able to provide the seamless transportation and service that is not currently available.

For the reasons stated herein, Rock Island Rail is expressing our support for the combination of CN and KCS as it will enhance overall competition through the multiple connection points and thereby creating more and faster transportation lanes through the US Heartland. A combined CN-KCS will improve the North American Transportation Network and create a true USMCA railway with the most efficient lanes through the heartland of the US.

Rock Island Rail is confident in, and strongly supports CN's proposed acquisition of KCS for all the reasons as stated herein. We hope to see the premier 21st century railway come to life.

Sincerely,



Robert Riley, CEO

cc: Parties of Record