

J.W. Scott Farm

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April 30th 2021

302245

ATTENTION: Surface Transportation Board

RE: STB Finance Docket NO. 36500

CP-KCS Potential Combination

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
May 3, 2021
Part of
Public Record

My name is John W (Jack) Scott, and I am a 4th generation, corn, soybean, and edible bean large farm operator in Gilby, ND, with operations in Grand Forks and Walsh counties. Our farm has access to both BNSF and Canadian Pacific served terminals for grain marketing. My family has a rich tradition of supporting the American free enterprise system, capitalism, and common-sense policies.

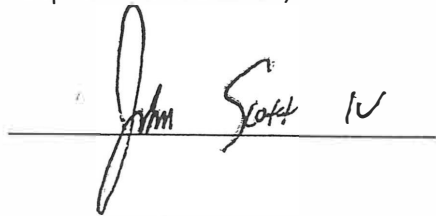
I am specifically writing in regards to the proposed Canadian National-Kansas City Southern acquisition. I do not have a favorable opinion of the formerly Canadian government-owned Canadian National Railway seeking to acquire Kansas City Southern. I strongly feel this acquisition is not constructive for ND farmers such as myself.

ND, the Red River Valley, and its farmers have a deep, colorful history in contending with monopolies in railways and flour mills. In the backdrop of the history of ND rail systems and grain markets, the CN-KC acquisition presents another concern in regards to healthy competition in our local marketplace.

Only one Class I railroad in ND has single-line access to grain markets in Texas and Gulf of Mexico, the BNSF. The other Class I, the Canadian Pacific, does not, and this inhibits competition in our local market. Despite the current imbalance, the CP-KC merger has the possibility of bringing more competition into our local marketplaces, to the benefit of ND farmers such as myself.

The CN-KC Merger does nothing to help ND farmers. To the contrary, it presents a valid concern of what further industry consolidation may happen if the CN-KC merger is able to be afforded approval by the STB. Industry consolidation could very well mean less competition for our local market, therefore our farm, in no uncertain terms opposes the Canadian National's proposal to acquire Kansas City Southern.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W Scott", is written over a horizontal line.

John W (Jack) Scott

April 30th, 2021

CC: All Parties of Record

To what avail the plow or sail or land or life if freedom fail?