



May 5, 2021

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

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
May 6, 2021
Part of
Public Record

Re: FD 36503, *Grand Elk Railroad, Inc.—Acquisition—Lines of Wisconsin Central Ltd. in the State of Michigan*
FD 36504, *Fox Valley & Lake Superior Rail System, L.L.C.—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Lines of Wisconsin Central Ltd. in the State of Wisconsin*
FD 36506, *Watco Holdings, Inc.—Continuance in Control—Fox Valley & Lake Superior Rail System, L.L.C.*

Dear Ms. Brown:

Please accept this letter as an indication of the National Industrial Transportation League's (NITL) support for Watco's acquisition of certain lines of the Wisconsin Central Ltd. by way of the Grand Elk Railroad, Inc. and the Fox Valley & Lake Superior Rail System, L.L.C (FOXY). Our organization is the oldest and largest freight transportation association in existence. We closely monitor changes impacting the system our members rely on while ensuring a modern, safe and efficient transport network.

We are encouraged by the opportunity new short line railroads present for shippers and receivers represented by NITL in the Northwoods of Wisconsin and Michigan. With that, we respectfully request the Board move forward with a timely completion of the transaction. An untimely delay of the FOXY's startup, as well as the Grand Elk Railroad's additional lines, simply means a longer wait until they have the opportunity work with the Watco team.

Again, we ask the STB to enable Watco and CN to complete their transaction in a timely and efficient manner. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer Hedrick
Executive Director

Cc: Parties of Record