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Creating connections to
empower agriculture

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

Re: STB application of rules for handling proposed mergers with the Kansas City
Southern railroad
Finance Docket No. 36500

Dear Ms. Brown:

As a farmer-owned cooperative, CHS Inc. ("CHS") opposes granting the Canadian National Railway a voting trust in the matter of the Kansas City Southern railroad merger, as it would not be in the best interest of U.S. farmers.

U.S. farmers appreciate the regulation and oversight of fair, competitive transportation systems to facilitate shipping grain from their farms to global buyers. CHS and other companies are investing heavily in assets and infrastructure in strategic U.S. crop production regions, to further expand farmers' market access and meet growing global demand.

Allowing the Canadian National a voting trust denies U.S. farmers and thousands of rural businesses serving them the benefits of competitive access, and a once in a lifetime opportunity to act on their behalf to create transformative, broad-reaching rail capacity and service.

Respectfully,

John Griffith
CHS Executive Vice President, Global Grain & Processing and CHS Hedging

cc: all parties of record