

The Surface Transportation Board
RE: Comments for Docket No FD 36472

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Office of Proceedings
December 20, 2021
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Public Record

Dear Members of the Surface Transportation Board,

We are requesting to appear at the Public Hearing concerning Docket No. FD36472 on January 13 and if necessary, January 14, 2022.

Entity: Islington Creek Neighborhood Portsmouth, NH
Proposed Speaker: Thomas Hiney
Time Requested 10 minutes

Summary Points:

Islington Creek Neighborhood has been attempting to have a fair and detailed discussion with Pan Am Railways as to their operational practices and the negative impact these practices have on the quality of life ~~enjoyed~~ of residents living and working in the neighborhood surrounding the Portsmouth, NH, rail yard and related tracks. We do not plan to discuss specifics at this time as a brief summary of such was provided as part of comments posted with STB prior to September 8, 2021.

We are asking that as a condition of the merger between Pan Am Railway and CSX that the successor agree to have good faith, collaborative discussion(s) with the Islington Creek Neighborhood and the City of Portsmouth, NH, to address our requests for possible adjustments to current operational practices which would help to mitigate the negative impacts to this neighborhood.

Based on our understanding of current federal laws, we feel that an unfair playing field has been created by providing railroads with extraordinary protections and thereby removing any need/desire of the railroad to work collaboratively with communities that they do business in. Our objective is to encourage robust, good faith discussions between the railroad and our community which we feel will be mutually beneficial.

Islington Creek Neighborhood
Portsmouth, NH.

Larry Cataldo, Robin Husslage, Nicole LaPierre, Tom Hiney