



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER
DIRECTOR

December 21, 2022

Ms. Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Wood:

SUBJECT: FD 36500 (Sub-No.1), Illinois Central Railroad Company – Acquisition of a Line of Railroad Between Kansas City, Mo., and Springfield and East St. Louis, Ill. – Kansas City Southern Railway Company

Thank you for your letter dated October 20, 2022, to Director Daniel Eichinger, Department of Natural Resources (Department), concerning the Proposed Divestiture and permits. Director Eichinger has forwarded your letter to the Department's Wildlife Division for response.

There are three historical records of plant species within the area of the increased activity: two Eos for Hairy Angelica (*Angelica venenose*, special concern), and one for Bastard Pennyroyal (*Trichostema dichotomum*, state threatened). Because these records are historical, I do not see a reason for concern for this project negatively impacting threatened & endangered species.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ms. Jennifer Kleitch, Endangered Species Specialist, Wildlife Division, at 517-284-9453 or kleitchj@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Jared Duquette
Wildlife Division Chief

cc: Mr. Daniel Eichinger, Director, MDNR
Ms. Shannon Lott, Natural Resources Deputy, MDNR
Mr. Ron Olson, MDNR