

October 27, 2023

Jay C. Johnson
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Via email

Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Docket Nos. FD 36727, *CSX Transp., Inc. – Acquisition & Operation – Rail Line of Meridian & Bigbee R.R., LLC*; FD 36732, *Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd. & Kansas City Southern R.R. – Acquisition & Operation – Certain Rail Line of Meridian & Bigbee R.R., LLC*

Dear Ms. Gosselin:

On behalf of our clients, CPKC and CSX Transportation, and in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.10(d), we are writing to ask that the Office of Environmental Analysis approve the use of a third-party consultant, to be selected by OEA and working under OEA's supervision, in the preparation of the environmental documentation for the above-named matters (and all related matters).

We also wish to inform you that neither CPKC nor CSXT would object if OEA selected VHB as the third-party consultant. VHB, as you know, is among the consultants pre-approved by OEA to prepare environmental studies.

Please let us know if you have any questions. As always, we greatly appreciate your assistance and look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,



Jay C. Johnson
Counsel for CPKC



Peter W. Denton
Counsel for CSXT

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cc: Diana Wood
Elizabeth Webster