

ASHLEY HINSON
2ND DISTRICT, IOWA

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE
STRATEGIC COMPETITION BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND THE
CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

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March 20, 2024

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The Honorable Martin J. Oberman
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 20, 2024
Part of
Public Record

Re: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation—Control—Iowa Northern
Railway Company, Docket No. FD 36744

Dear Chairman Oberman:

I write in support of the acquisition of Iowa Northern Railway Company by Canadian National Railway Company (CN). The combined CN-Iowa Northern will provide opportunities for growth that will greatly benefit the constituents of Iowa's Second Congressional District. I look forward to the advantages that CN's agreement with Iowa Northern Rail Company will bring to customers, supply chains, and Iowa's economy.

Iowa's agricultural communities and small businesses feed and fuel our country, and they are the backbone of our economy. It is crucial to ensure robust and resilient supply chains in such communities so that our farmers and businesses have access to the critical inputs and can, in turn, distribute their products. Many of those farmers and small business owners rely heavily on supply chain partners, including rail carriers like Iowa Northern. This acquisition will allow Iowa Northern to continue serving customers while offering new ways to access global markets through CN's expanded network and service options.

The acquisition will tightly connect communities in Iowa to the national rail network and provide direct access to key transportation corridors such as the Chicago gateway and CN's north-south route along the Mississippi River. This will bolster Iowa's supply chains, economy, and the livelihoods of farmers and rural communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for considering these important issues for my constituents. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Nick Bowser at Nick.Bowser@mail.house.gov in my office should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress