



Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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March 29, 2024

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March 29, 2024
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The Honorable Ashley Hinson
1717 Longworth House
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hinson,

Thank you for your recent letter in support of the acquisition of Iowa Northern Railway Company (Iowa Northern) by Canadian National Railway Company (CNR) and Grand Trunk Corporation (GTC) in Canadian National Railway and Grand Trunk Corporation—Control—Iowa Northern Railway, Docket No. FD 36744. I appreciate hearing your perspective on how this proposed acquisition could bolster supply chain partnerships and increase economic development in Iowa's Second Congressional District.

As you are aware, on January 30, 2024, CNR and GTC, together with Iowa Northern, filed an application seeking Board approval for CNR and GTC to acquire control of Iowa Northern. In a decision issued on February 29, 2024, the Board found the proposed transaction to be a minor transaction and accepted the application. On March 1, 2024, a motion for reconsideration was filed requesting that the Board consider the transaction a significant transaction. On March 29, 2024, the Board denied the motion for reconsideration, modified the procedural schedule, and directed the parties to provide additional information. Once the record has closed, the Board will review and carefully consider all comments filed in the docket.

Given that the proposed transaction is pending before the Board, I cannot comment further; however, I thank you for sharing your views on the proposed acquisition's potential impact on Iowa's supply chains, its economy, and the livelihood of farmers and rural communities. A copy of your letter and this reply have been placed in the docket on the Board's website. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Janie Sheng, Director of the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance, at 202-245-0238.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Oberman
Chairman