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Office of Chief Counsel
November 13, 2025
Part of
Public Record

Pulaski County Quorum Court

31 October 2025

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423



Dear Chairman Fuchs,

As a small business owner, father raising my family in Sherwood, and member of the Pulaski County Quorum Court for more than a decade, I have seen firsthand how critical Union Pacific has been for the economic success of Pulaski County and central Arkansas. Given that hundreds of communities can say the same, I strongly support the proposed merger between Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern.

With the North Little Rock Yard in my backyard, Union Pacific has long been part of our community's identity and growth. Generations of skilled workers have built their careers there, and the railyard continues to serve as a cornerstone of economic strength for Sherwood, North Little Rock, and the greater metropolitan region. When Union Pacific invests, our residents feel it—from good-paying transportation and supply-chain jobs to the many secondary businesses that rely on a stable, efficient freight network.

The merger with Norfolk Southern represents a forward-looking step to ensure that the network remains modern, competitive, and capable of meeting the demands of a growing economy. Enhanced route efficiency, improved freight fluidity, and long-range investment will position central Arkansas to continue attracting jobs and industry, allowing small businesses and the families behind them to thrive.

Please approve this merger and continue supporting communities that depend on strong rail service to power local opportunity.

Sincerely,

Hon. Luke McCoy, District 12
Pulaski County Quorum Court