



Lake Erie West
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Lake Erie West Regional Council

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312625

September 30, 2026

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Notice of Intent to Participate in Proceedings Regarding Docket No. FD 36783

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
September 30, 2026
Part of
Public Record

To Whom It May Concern,

Lake Erie West Regional Council is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Toledo, Ohio area which includes Lucas and Wood counties in Ohio and the three southern townships of Monroe County, Michigan. Lake Erie West is a nonpartisan regional planning partnership made up of voluntary governmental members in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Lake Erie West develops and implements regionally significant plans including the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region.

This letter is to declare the intent of the Lake Erie West Regional Council to participate in the proceedings regarding docket number FD 36873 concerning the proposed merger of Union Pacific Corporation and Norfolk Southern Corporation. As the entity responsible for transportation planning for the Toledo area, NOACA has an interest in the potential merger and how it will affect both passenger and freight rail service in our region currently operated on Norfolk Southern trackage.

I can be contacted via email at spang@lakeeriewest.org and via telephone at 419-392-7577.

Sincerely,

Sandy Spang
Executive Director

CC: The Office of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation
The Office of the Attorney General of the United States
Michael L. Rosenthal (Union Pacific)
Raymond A. Atkins (Norfolk Southern)
Hon. Jennifer Soulikias, STB Administrative Law Judge