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November 13, 2026

VIA E-Mail

Danielle Gosselin
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
Danielle.Gosselin@stb.gov

Re: STB Docket No. FD 36873 (Sub-No. 33), BNSF Ry.—Trackage Rights—Norfolk S. Corp. & Norfolk S. Ry.

Dear Ms. Gosselin,

In accordance with Decision No. 30, BNSF Railway Company ("BNSF") submits this letter regarding the environmental reporting requirements applicable to its forthcoming Responsive Application seeking trackage rights over certain rail lines owned by Norfolk Southern Corporation and Norfolk Southern Railway Company between Chicago, Illinois, and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. *See* BNSF Ry. Descr. of Responsive Appl. at 9 n.9.

The proposed trackage rights are categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(c). Accordingly, the Board is not required to prepare environmental documentation or conduct an environmental review of BNSF's Responsive Application. Consistent with this conclusion, counsel for BNSF conferred with the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis ("OEA") on September 16, 2026, and confirmed that the proposed trackage rights fall within the Board's categorical exclusion for trackage rights transactions. OEA further confirmed that it does not anticipate conducting an environmental review of the Responsive Application.

Please let us know if we can provide any additional information regarding the Responsive Application.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Peter W. Denton

Peter W. Denton
Attorney for BNSF Railway Company