

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 18, 2016
Part of
Public Record

Re: FD 34533 [Sub-No. 1] Southwestern Railroad/BNSF Railway

Dear Ms. Brown

I, James P. Medina, a Southwestern R.R. employee since 12/30/2014 and an active railroader since 03/2003 respectively request as a concerned party to the above transaction, that the Surface Transportation Board impose full labor protection in the above transaction. As a class 1 railroad is taking over from a class 3 operation, the same transaction occurred when the BNSF railway took over operations from the Yellowstone Valley Railroad a leased BNSF property. Docket NO. AB 991 [Sub-No 1X]. At that time the STB imposed labor protection. This was the Oregon Shortline Decision No. AB 36 [Sub-No 2] Dated Feb. 23 1979.

We have some fears that they may try to structure this transaction in a way that these parties may avoid some or all our Railway Labor Act protections. We have no access to a labor organization's legal team and ask that we be treated fairly, as is also spelled out in the Oregon Shortline Decision, that unrepresented employees be treated the same as ones with representation.

The railroad industry has suffered job losses of 15,000 since June 2015 [Railway Age June 2016] and BNSF Railway has thousands of personnel on furlough. Our job protection rights are needed to help our co-workers some of whom have only a short time till retirement and are facing a tough job market. I would like to thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Respectfully,

X James P. Medina X

November 7, 2016

I CERTify that I have this day served
copies of document upon all parties of
Record in this proceeding.

Respectfully

James P. Medina

