



Office of the Chairman

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

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September 13, 2016

The Honorable Fred Upton
U.S. House of Representatives
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Huizenga
U.S. House of Representatives
1217 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Upton and Huizenga,

Thank you for your letter, dated September 8, 2016, expressing your interest in *Grand Elk Railroad, Inc.—Acquisition of Incidental Trackage Rights Exemption—Norfolk Southern Railway Company*, FD 35187 (Sub-No. 1). We appreciate hearing your views on the importance of competitive rail service in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Because this matter is pending before the agency, we cannot directly respond to the concerns expressed in your letter. On September 9, 2016, the Board published Grand Elk Railroad's notice of exemption for acquisition of trackage rights, and the Board will carefully consider your views, as well as all other pleadings and comments received, on Grand Elk Railroad's related petitions. A copy of your letter has been added to the docket in this proceeding and posted on the STB's website.

If you have any questions about this case or STB procedures in general, please contact Lucille L. Marvin, Director, Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance. The telephone number for this office is (202) 245-0238. Thank you again for contacting us.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Elliott III
Chairman

Deb Miller
Vice Chairman

Ann D. Begeman
Board Member