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August 1, 2013

Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW, Room #100
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Office of Proceedings

AUG 1 2013

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Public Record

RE: Docket # FD 35247, Grenada Railway

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed is a letter on behalf of my company in reference to the Grenada Railway matter.

I certify that a copy of this letter has been served on each party of record by facsimile transmission or United States mail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Burke Nichols", followed by a stylized flourish.

Burke Nichols
Plant Manager – Senatobia, MS



7/29/2013

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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AUG 1 2013

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Re: Docket No. FD 35247, Grenada Railway

Dear Ms. Brown,

As the manager of Carlisle Construction Materials' manufacturing plant in Senatobia, Tate County, Mississippi, I am concerned about the continued discussion of potential abandonment of any portion of the Grenada railway between Canton, Mississippi and Grenada, Mississippi. Closure of any portion of this rail has negative financial impact on all communities served by Grenada Railway. The temporary closure has forced the shipment of our materials from the south to be routed through Memphis, Tennessee. This has increased the time for shipments and has increased shipping costs significantly.

Carlisle uses the railway to transport our raw materials. Raw materials make up more than 80% of the costs of our products. Having low cost, adequate, and reliable supply of these raw materials is essential to being competitive in the construction market.

As our company recently considered the location for a planned business expansion, transportation costs were a major concern. Senatobia was a preferred potential location. The unknown viability of Grenada Railway's service for materials was one factor, along with higher costs of transportation. These concerns were part of the reason for the expansion to be installed at another facility. This is a significant loss for our community of long term jobs, and the economic boost of a \$10 million dollar plant expansion and equipment installation.

Other shortline railroad companies have expressed interest in operating this line between Canton, MS and Memphis, TN. Therefore, the potential for this line to be profitable is evident. Scrapping this line is short sighted and could have a detrimental effect on the communities that rely on efficient, cost effective rail transportation from Grenada Railway.

I respectfully request you to consider the constituents and communities along this rail line as you make decisions regarding the Grenada Railway.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Burke Nichols", followed by a stylized flourish or checkmark.

Burke Nichols
Plant Manager - Senatobia, MS