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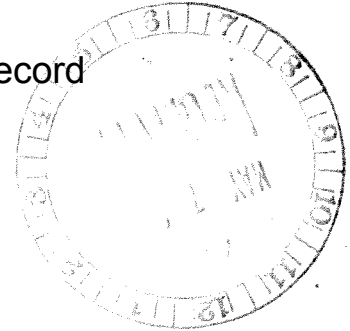
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Office of Proceedings

May 7, 2013

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Public Record



April 2, 2013

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034  
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Finance Docket No. 35731  
Ballard Terminal Railroad Company, LLC-Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Woodinville  
Subdivision

Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 465C)  
BNSF Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in King County, WA

Dear Ms. Brown,

We are writing to you as members of the Washington State Legislature concerned about preservation of Washington's rail infrastructure. While we appreciate the depth and breadth of the community engagement that the City of Kirkland has embarked upon in the last few years, we encourage the joint development of rail freight, commuter, and excursion uses in conjunction with trail uses on the Eastside Rail Corridor.

Our concerns stem from our belief that existing transportation infrastructure must be retained. We share the concerns of the Eastside TRailway Alliance as expressed by co-chairs, Snohomish Mayor Karen Guzak and Woodinville Councilmember Les Rubstello. Specifically, the imminent removal of the 5 mile section of track by Kirkland is counter to facilitating Snohomish-King County discussion on coordinated investments in rails and trails.

We believe that the Eastside Rail Corridor represents an irreplaceable resource and opportunity for the communities along the Corridor and throughout the region. We are also mindful of the efficiencies and carbon offsets inherent in rail transport. Specifically, there are numerous public and private projects in Bellevue that could use this rail corridor to reduce emissions and wear and tear on roadways. Put simply, this unique right-of-way provides opportunities for both economic

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development and recreation while fostering vibrant communities and serving the region's growing transportation needs.

Community and business interests have pointed out to us that the Eastside Rail Corridor is a community asset of great potential value once existing sections are restored sufficiently. In light of these numerous benefits, we support the effort to improve rail between the cities of Snohomish and Woodinville as a first step in realizing this potential.

As strong supporters of integrating trail and rail links, and all of the opportunities they provide, within and between our communities, we encourage a complete and inclusive dialogue between all stakeholders along the Eastside Rail Corridor.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Luis Moscoso in black ink.

Rep. Luis Moscoso

Handwritten signature of Rosemary McAuliffe in black ink.

Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe

Handwritten signature of Gael Tarleton in black ink.

Rep. Gael Tarleton

Handwritten signature of Mike Sells in black ink.

Rep. Mike Sells

Handwritten signature of John McCoy in black ink.

Rep. John McCoy