



Thomas R. Brown
President

February 22, 2000

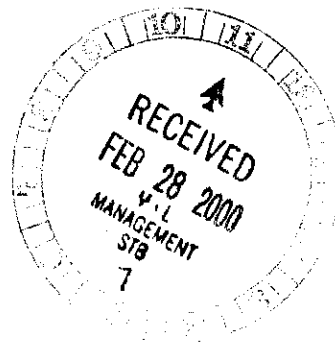
Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Office of the Secretary

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Dear Mr. Williams:

RISS/USSI (formerly "The RISS Companies") is an intermodal marketing company that is a major user of rail service in the U.S. and Canada. In the past, we have come before the Board on several occasions to express our opinion with regard to various railroad consolidations.

The purpose of this letter is to urge the STB to hold hearings in the matter of the consolidation of Canadian National and Burlington Northern Santa Fe. That is, if an application is filed with the STB by BNSF and CN to consolidate their respective properties, then we at RISS/USSI support the Board conducting proceedings to consider their application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas R. Brown", followed by a horizontal line.

Thomas R. Brown
President

Cc: Mr. William Berry, Vice President Intermodal
Canadian National Railroad

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