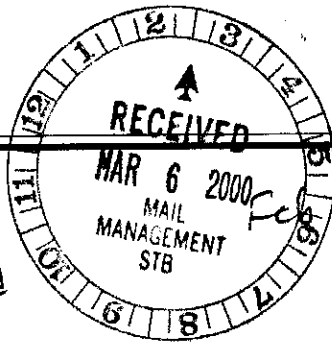


TOBACCO VALLEY LUMBER CO.

2040 Hwy. 2 East
P.O. Box 2590
Kalispell, MT 59903



197598

Feb 29, 2000

Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit, Attn: STB ex Parte No. 582
1925 K St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I would like to go on record as opposing the proposed merger of the BNSF and CN. Our sawmills ship lumber on the BNSF and the reduced competition between railroads as a result of mergers can only harm us over the long term.

John Branstetter

John Branstetter

Office of the Secretary

MAR 07 2000

Public Records