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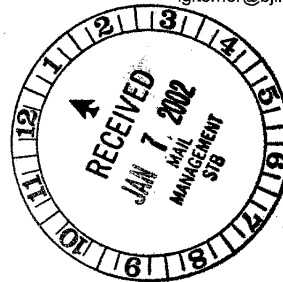
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January 7, 2002

BY HAND

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary
JAN 07 2002
Part of
Public Record



Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34130, *RailAmerica, Inc.—Control Exemption—*
Kiamichi Holdings, Inc. and Kiamichi Railroad L.L.C.

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed are the original and 10 copies of this letter. On December 7, 2001, a petition for exemption was filed in the above-entitled proceeding. In that petition, RailAmerica, Inc. ("RailAmerica") respectfully requested that the Surface Transportation Board (the "Board") expedite the handling of the proceeding. On January 4, 2002, RailAmerica completed the acquisition of the StatesRail properties and placed Kiamichi Holdings, Inc. (the "Kiamichi") in an independent voting trust. RailAmerica respectfully reiterates its request for the Board to expedite the handling of the above-entitled proceeding so that RailAmerica can take control of the Kiamichi in order to avoid the costs involved with the voting trust and begin to integrate the administrative functions of the Kiamichi into the RailAmerica family in order to reduce costs and improve efficiencies for the Kiamichi's customers.

Please time and date stamp the extra copy of this letter and return it to our messenger. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please call or email me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis E. Gitomer".

Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for RailAmerica, Inc.