

GISLASON & HUNTER LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

NEW ULM MINNEAPOLIS MANKATO MAPLETON DES MOINES

OF COUNSEL
C. Allen Dosland†
Donald F. Hunter^{3†}
James H. Malecki
Ruth Ann Webster

June 20, 2002

Daniel A. Gislason†
C. Thomas Wilson
Marlin R. Kunard
David D. Alsop
Barry G. Vermeer^{1†*}
Gary W. Koch^{1,2}
Timothy P. Tobin^{2†*}
Roger H. Gross^{*}
David W. Sturges^{†*}
R. Stephen Tilt^{†*}
Mark S. Ullery
Jeff C. Braegelman
Reed H. Glawe¹
Wade R. Wacholz
Noel L. Phifer
Laura L. Myslis¹
Andrew A. Willaert
Daniel A. Beckman
Steven J. Vatndal^{2†*}
Michael S. Dove
Dustan J. Cross¹
Loree A. Nelson⁶
Christopher E. Sandquist
Kaarin K. Foede
Peter D. Favorite
Matthew H. Morgan
Jon Breyer
Aaron J. Glade⁷
Sara N. Wilson
Christopher P. Rosengren
Alex W. Russell[†]
Gregory L. Sattizahn³
Kathleen M. Loucks
Matthew P. Kostolnik
Angela B. Forsythe[†]

NEW ULM OFFICE
2700 South Broadway
New Ulm, MN 56073

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 458
New Ulm, MN 56073-0458

PHONE: 507-354-3111
FAX: 507-354-8447

WEB SITE: www.gislason.com

Also admitted in:

¹ Iowa

² Wisconsin

³ Illinois

⁴ Admitted only in Virginia

⁵ South Dakota

⁶ Admitted only in Iowa

⁷ Nebraska

* Civil Trial Specialist

** Real Property Law Specialist
certified by the Minnesota
State Bar Association

† Qualified ADR Neutral

‡ Certified Public Accountant



VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 700
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Finance Docket No. 34177 → 205680
Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Corporation –
Acquisition and Operation Exemption –
Lines of I&M Rail Link. LLC

Finance Docket No. 34178 → 205681
Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation
and Cedar American Rail Holdings, Inc.—Control—
Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Corporation
Our File No. 8229-175

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned matters, please find the original and ten copies of the Verified Statement of Randall M. Rieke on Behalf of Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Sara N. Wilson

Sara N. Wilson

SNW/
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Allan J. Vogel
Mr. Randall Rieke
Mr. Lynn Anderson

NULIB:103606.1

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 24 2002

Part of
Public Record

VERIFIED STATEMENT
OF
RANDALL M. RIEKE
ON BEHALF OF
SOUTHERN GRAINBELT SHIPPERS ASSOCIATION



I, Randall Rieke, on behalf of the Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association, submit the following statement in support of the proposed acquisition of the I & M Rail Link's ("IMRL") rail lines by the Iowa, Chicago, & Eastern Railroad Corporation ("IC&E") as well as the proposed common control of IC&E and the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Company ("DM&E").

Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association, directly and indirectly, represent thousands of agricultural, commercial and industrial users of rail services in Southern Minnesota who are dependent upon existing rail infrastructure (*see* Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof). As part of its efforts, Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association takes an active interest in all transportation matters that affect the region.

Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association strongly supports the proposed acquisition of IMRL's rail lines by IC&E. The Surface Transportation Board's ("STB") authorization of said acquisition is integral to the maintenance and improvement of the overall existing rail infrastructure in Southern Minnesota. The businesses, communities and consumers in Southern Minnesota will be direct beneficiaries of such improved rail transportation services.

That benefit is demonstrated by the dramatic impact on market access for commodities and products bought and sold in the Southern Minnesota area. On the one hand, market access afforded by maintenance and improvement of the overall existing rail infrastructure generates substantially more favorable prices for products produced; on the other, costs of goods purchased is reduced on account of efficiencies in delivery.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 24 2002

Part of
Public Record

Providing an improved rail infrastructure that is more reliable and efficient ensures greater prosperity for the businesses, communities and consumers of Southern Minnesota. Insurance of a secure future for the IMRL rail lines correlates to greater prosperity for the businesses, communities and consumers in Southern Minnesota. The proposed acquisition of the IMRL lines by IC&E will ensure the long-term viability of a critical component of the transportation infrastructure of Southern Minnesota.

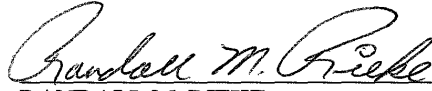
Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association encourages the STB to allow the acquisition by IC&E of the IMRL lines as soon as possible. It is important for our community that the current uncertainty regarding the IMRL lines be eliminated, and that the service opportunities and improvements offered by IC&E be achieved as quickly as possible.

Likewise, and for the same reasons of reliability, efficiency and improvement, we support the common control of IC&E and DM&E.

We believe that the proposed acquisition and control transaction will secure the long-term position of the IMRL rail lines as viable and competitive components of Southern Minnesota's transportation infrastructure. Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association encourages the STB's favorable and timely consideration of both transactions.

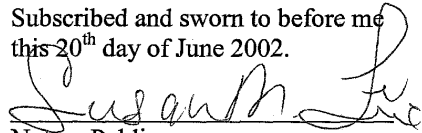
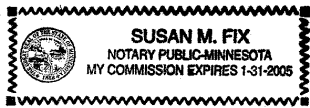
I, Randall M. Rieke, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing statement is true and correct, and that I am qualified and authorized to file this statement.

Dated: June 20, 2002



RANDALL M. RIEKE
Secretary/Treasurer for
Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 20th day of June 2002.


Notary Public

NULIB:103584.1

EXHIBIT A

Southern Grainbelt Shippers Association Membership List

All American Co-op
P.O. Box 148
Center Ave #1
Eyota, MN 55934
Alvin Resoft

Assoc. Milk Prod. Inc.
P.O. Box 98
312 Center Street
Dick Wuttke

Briggs Business Comm.
P.O. Box 75021
St. Paul, MN 55175
Peter A. Briggs

Cargill Inc.
200 N. Riverfront Dr
Mankato, MN 56001
Bruce Carlson

Cenex Harvest States
P.O. Box 476
Hartland, MN 56042
Don Pederson

Cenex Harvest States
120 West Lincoln
Tyler, MN 56178
Cory Evans

Cenex Harvest States
P.O. Box 64796
St. Paul, MN 55164-0796
Dan Mack

Amiret Grain Company
P.O. Box 46
Amiret, MN 56112
Shannon Christianson

Balaton Elevator Co.
P.O. Box 147
Balaton, MN 56115

Brown County Ag Co.
P.O. Box 325
Highway 14 E
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Dean Christenson

Cashman Fertilizer & Feed
P.O. Box 556
280 Bridge Street
Owatonna, MN 55060
Jack Cashman

Cenex Harvest States
P.O. Box 69
988 Riverview Drive
Winona, MN 55987-0096
Larry Laber

Cenex Harvest States
Rr 1 Box 214
Janesville, MN 56048
Tim Donelan

Cenex Harvest States
2020 S. Riverfront Drive
Mankato, MN 56002
David Pope

Archer Daniels Midland Co.
P.O. Box 728
3rd & Harper
Mankato, MN 56001
John McGowan

Bornhoft Concrete Inc.
Rr 1, Box 49
Tyler, MN 56178
John Bornhoft

Brown Printing Co.
P.O. Box 1549
2300 Brown Ave.
Waseca, MN 56093-0571
Jim Kozan

Cenex / Land O Lakes
1249 South Street
Tracy, MN 56175
Ron Beens

Cenex Harvest States
P.O. Box 1098
Tracy, MN 56175
Bob Anderson

Cenex Harvest States
P.O. Box 64089
St. Paul, MN 64089
Larry Holst

Central Trading & Recycling
P.O. Box 218
New Richland, MN 56072
Terry Pooley

Del Monte Foods, Inc.
P.O. Box 407
Highway 14 W.
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Jim Knetsch

Farmers Plant Food Inc.
P.O. Box 6
Verdi, MN 56179
Clyde Knudson

Greenway Co-op
320 Byron Ave.
Byron, MN 55920
Mike Kuhlmann

Greenway Co-op
P.O. Box 85
New Richland, MN 56072
Mike Moen

Harvestland Co-op
P.O. Box 148
Springfield, MN 56087
Gordy Jensen

Knight Seed Co. Inc.
P.O. Box 989
151 West 126th Street
Burnsville, MN 55337

Lin's Used Iron & Metal
Depot
P.O. Box 623
420 5th Ave S.E.
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Meadowland Farmers Co-op
P.O. Box 338
Lamberton, MN 56152
Gordon Woelfel

MN Grain & Feed Assoc.
852 Grain Exchange
400 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415
Bob Zelenka

Energy Economics
109 South Street S.E.
Dodge Center, MN 55927
Mark Donaldson

Gopher State Scrap & Metal
3401 3rd Ave.
Mankato, MN 56001
Pat Daley

Greenway Co-op
101 South Teal St. Box C
Janesville, MN 56048
Doug Lueders

Greenway Corp.
P.O. Box 275
Claremont, MN 55924
Joe Winkels

Hi Yield Products
P.O. Box 506
Hartland, MN 56042
Jan Reed

Lake Benton Farmers Elevator
P.O. Box 309
Lake Benton, MN 56149

Mathiowetz Construction Co.
30676 Country Road 24
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Brian Mathiowetz

Mid-America Brokerage Co.
1602 South Washington St.
New Ulm, MN 56073
Dick Seeboth

MN Regional Railroads Assoc.
145 University Ave. W.
Suite 450
St. Paul, MN 55103-2044
John Apitz

Farmers Co-operative of Hanska
P.O. Box 6
Hanska, MN 56041-0006
Randall Rieke

Greenway Co-op
850 East Front Street
Winona, MN 55987
Chuck Piper

Greenway Co-op 135 West Front
Street
Claremont, MN 55924
Scott Feller

Harvestland Co-op
P.O. Box 278
Morgan, MN 56266
George Dunn

Interstate Mills, LLC.
P.O. Box 200
Northfield, MN 55057

Lewiston Feed & Produce Co.
P.O. Box 309
105 Main Street E.
Lewiston, MN 55952

McNeilus Steel Co.
P.O. Box 429
Dodge Center, MN 55927
Dan Blaisdell

Midwest Manufacturing
6765 Highway 14 E.
Rochester, MN 55904
Ted Basacker

MN Agri-Growth Council
408 Saint Peter Street
Suite 20 Skyway
St. Paul, MN 55102-1130
Myron Just

MNDOT
Kelly Anex
Suite 925 Trans Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
Al Vogel

Northern Con-Ag Inc.
3131 Fernbrook Lane
Suite 121
Plymouth, MN 55447
Joe Egan

Peterson Grain & Brokerage
Co.
9116 13th Street S.W.
Meriden, MN 56093-6707
Daniel Peterson

Rochester Iron & Metal Recyc.
1950 3rd Ave. S.E.
Rochester, MN 55904
Gene Jennings

Sioux Valley Ready Mix
P.O. Box 70
1716 N. Front Street
New Ulm, MN 56073
Steve Rentz

Tri-State Grease & Tallow Co.
P.O. Box 792
1220 South Valley St.
New Ulm, MN 56073

Winona County Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 189
220 East Main Street
Lewiston, MN 55952

New Ulm Quartzite Quarries
RR #5 P.O. Box 21
New Ulm, MN 56073
Jeff Carlstrom

Ochs Brick Co.
801 East Rock Street
Springfield, MN 56087
Phil Weller

Pillsbury Company
200 South 6th Street
MS 22R2
Minneapolis, MN 55402-1464
Tom A. Jones

Sanborn Farmers Elevator
P.O. Box 67
Sanborn, MN 56083
Thomas Arndorfer

Sleepy Eye Farmers Elevator Co.
P.O. Box 429
27875 County Rd. 27
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Carlin Johnson

Watonwan Farm Service
P.O. Box 456
New Richland, MN 56072
Mike McNeil

New Ulm Steel & Recycling
P.O. Box 3
218 19th South Street
New Ulm, MN 56073
Walt Luneberg

Owatonna Concrete Products
P.O. Box 294
Owatonna, MN 55060
Dave Seykora

Progressive Ag Center
P.O. Box 636
942 Wabasha Ave.
St. Charles, MN 55972
Todd Stockdale

Seneca Foods Corp.
P.O. Box 9
1217 3rd Ave. S.E.
Rochester, MN 55903
Brad Duncanson

Tamarack Meterials
1638 3rd Ave. S.E.
Rochester, MN 55904
Jim Holman

Winona River and Rail
1000 East 3rd Street
Winona, MN 55987
Jeff Kuhn