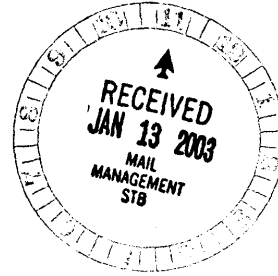


June 11, 2002

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K. Street NW
Washington DC 20423-0001

207031



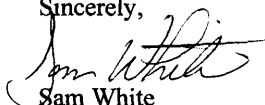
Re: Finance Docket No. 34079, San Jacinto Rail Limited-Authority to Construct-
and The Burlington Northern and Sante Fe Railway Company- Authority to
Operate- Petition for an Exemption from 49 U.S.C. Section 10901- Build-out to
the Bayport Loop in Houston, Harris County, Texas

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are the original and ten (10) copies of the Verified statement of Sam White submitted on behalf of Southern Ionics Incorporated in support of the competitive buildout proposal that is the subject of this docket.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Sam White
Transportation Manager

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN 13 2003

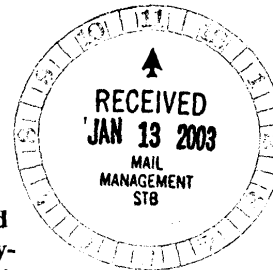
Part of
Public Record

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Finance Docket No. 34079

**San Jacinto Rail Limited-Authority to Construct-and
The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company-
Authority to Operate-Build-Out to the Bayport Loop in
Houston, Harris County, TX**



**Verified Statement of Sam White
On Behalf of Southern Ionics Incorporated
In Support of the Bayport Loop Build-Out**

My name is Sam White and I am the Transportation Manager for Southern Ionics Incorporated. My business address is 201 Commerce Street, West Point, MS 39773. I am responsible for negotiating logistics contracts including rail. In this capacity, I am knowledgeable about the transportation requirements of Southern Ionics.

Southern Ionics is an innovator and leading manufacturer of specialty and intermediate inorganic chemicals. Our products are based on aluminum, magnesium, sulfur and zirconium chemistry. Founded in 1980, Southern Ionics is built on the four cornerstones of service, quality, technology and delivery. Southern Ionics product line offers diverse application in eight core markets: Cement, Molecular Sieves, Pharmaceuticals, Pulp and Paper, Refinery and Automotive Catalysts, Titanium Dioxide, Water and Wastewater Treatment and Zeolites. We have over 200 employees, and doubled our business in the last three years.

Additional information about our company can be found on our website at www.southernionics.com.

We have a production facility located in Bayport, TX. At our Bayport facility, we manufacture products based on aluminum, sulfur and zirconium Chemistry. We ship and receive in excess of 20,000 tons per month of products and raw materials. Annual revenues for the Bayport facility exceed 23 million dollars. We employ 46 full time employees at the Bayport facility.

Our Bayport facility ships product by rail. We believe competitive access by rail is of critical importance to our industry and the customer we serve. Factors such as improved transportation alternatives and economics will clearly play a role in our company's market position.

We support the efforts of San Jacinto Rail and The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company.

Please provide prompt approval of this project by the Surface Transportation Board.

I hereby affirm on penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and based on my knowledge and information.

Sam White
Transportation Manager

Dated: June 11, 2002