



INTEREST
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MAY 12 2003

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Public Record

John P. LaRue
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 2, 2003

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

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Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34342

***Kansas City Southern – Control – The Kansas City Southern Railway Company
Gateway Eastern Railway Company, And The Texas Mexican Railway Company***

Dear Secretary Williams:

My name is John P. LaRue. I am the Executive Director of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority of Nueces County, Texas. My business address is 222 Power Street, Corpus Christi, TX 78401, and the mailing address is P O Box 1541, Corpus Christi, TX 78403. I have been employed as the Executive Director since April 26, 1994. The Port of Corpus Christi Authority of Nueces County, Texas (also referred to herein as the "Port of Corpus Christi" or "Port") is a political subdivision of the State of Texas and is responsible for the operation of the deep-water port located at Corpus Christi, Texas.

The following comments support the application of Kansas City Southern Railway Company ("KCS") to continue in control of the Gateway Eastern Railway Company and to gain control of The Texas Mexican Railway Company (Tex Mex).

Rail service at the Port is provided by the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF), Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP), and the Tex Mex. Competitive rail service is extremely important to the Port and our customers. Products moving by rail include but are not limited to bulk grain, packaged grain and grain products, dry bulk products including coal, minerals, metallic ores, machinery, iron and steel articles, industrial equipment, refrigerated products and military equipment. The Port appreciates and values its relationships with the three serving railroads with a focus on helping insure their success here.

The Tex Mex in particular provides an essential link between Corpus Christi, including the Port, and Mexico via Laredo, TX. The current joint venture partnership between KCS and Tex Mex has provided a competitive opportunity for the Port and its customers. We believe KCS' application to control the Tex Mex, if approved, will strengthen both carriers under a common management, promote competition and improve service.

Website: www.portofcorpuschristi.com

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The Port of Corpus Christi respectfully asks the Board to consider the KCS application as a minor transaction and approve the transaction at the earliest possible time.

Sincerely,



John P. LaRue
Executive Director

AFB/JPL/sld

cc: Mr. Thomas J. Healey
The Kansas City Southern Railway Co.
P O Box 219335
Kansas City, MO 64121-9335

Mr. William A Mullins
Troutman Sanders LLP
401 9th St. N W
Washington, DC 20004-2134

VERIFICATION

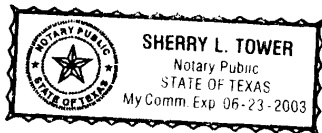
I, John P. Larue, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Further, I certify that I am qualified to file this verified statement.

Signer

Executive Director, Port of Corpus Christi
Title & Company

SWORN TO and Subscribed before me by JOHN P. LARUE on this
2ND day of May, 2003.



(SEAL)

Sherry L. Tower
Notary Public Signature