

**WRIGHT MATERIALS, INC.
5706 FM 3088
ROBSTOWN, TEXAS 78380**



May 16, 2003

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

RE: Kansas City Southern—Control—The Kansas City Southern Railway
Company, Gateway Eastern Railway Company, And The Texas
Mexican Railway Company (STB Finance Docket No. 34342)

Dear Mr. Williams:

My name is Milus Wright. I am the general manager of Wright Materials, Inc. (WMI). Our mailing address is 5706 FM 3088, Robstown, Texas 78380. I have been general manager of WMI for 22 years. WMI is a family owned corporation founded by my grandfather, M. P. Wright, Jr. in 1939 and incorporated by his children in 1969. WMI is a sand and gravel company. Business activities consist of mining, processing, and marketing sand, gravel, and crushed gravel products.

In 1963 WMI located a large sand and gravel deposit near Realitos, Texas approximately one mile off the Tex Mex Rail Road. In 1963 an agreement was made with The Texas Mexican Rail Road by which the Tex Mex would construct approximately 7034 feet of railroad trackage to a newly constructed sand and gravel processing plant. In the year 2002 alone, WMI shipped 4203 gondola and hopper cars from plant. While WMI and The Tex Mex have been through both good and bad times, we have both tried to live up to the agreements made in 1963. With this in mind, I have asked Mr. Guadalupe Salinas, TFM Asst. Vice President of International Sales, to request The KCS to acknowledge and possibly update the 1963 agreement. WMI is looking forward to expanding our market area beyond Corpus Christi and Laredo, Texas. The single line haul will allow us to be competitive in a much broader area. For these reasons WMI takes a serious and active interest in transportation matters that affect the region.

Wright Materials, Inc. does support the control application of the Kansas City Southern ("KCS") to continue to control The Kansas City Southern Railway Company ("KCSR") and Gateway Eastern Railway Company ("Gateway

Eastern”) and gain control of The Texas Mexican Railway Company (“Tex Mex”) filed at the Surface Transportation Board (“Board”). The lines of KCS and Tex Mex are a vital link for Texas based shippers and receivers. KCS and Tex Mex already operate as joint venture partners and this end-to-end transaction will not result in any competitive harm. At the same time, the proposed transaction should ensure the continued viability and vitality of existing rail service for local industries and manufacturers. The transaction will also promote a stronger competitor for the region and ultimately for NAFTA rail traffic.

Wright Materials, Inc. urges the Board to consider this transaction as a minor transaction and approve the transaction at the earliest possible time.

I, Milus Wright, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this verified statement. Executed this 16th day of May, 2003.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milus Wright", is written in a cursive style.

Milus Wright, General Manager
Wright Materials, Inc.

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

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