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Office of Proceeding

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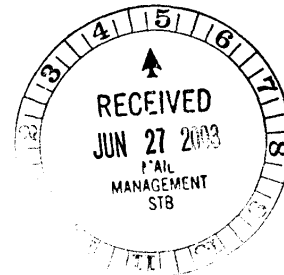
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June 27, 2003

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

208225-



RE: Finance Docket No. 34335  
*Keokuk Junction Railway Co. - Feeder Railroad Development Application -  
Line Of Toledo, Peoria & Western Railway Corporation Between La Harpe  
And Hollis, IL*

Dear Secretary Williams:

On June 25, 2003, Keokuk Junction Railway Co. ("KJRY") received a copy of Toledo, Peoria & Western Railway Corporation's ("TP&W's") "Reply" to KJRY's June 9, 2003, supplement to its application. Though the pleading is unauthorized under the Board's rules, KJRY does not oppose its acceptance by the Board because doing so would simply generate more unnecessary filings by TP&W designed to delay or avoid having to file evidence.

Quite simply, KJRY did what the Board directed; that is, it filed "a GCV estimate *along with supporting data for the Mapleton Segment* of the Line, additional evidence of financial responsibility to purchase and operate the entire Line, and more detailed operating plans and pro forma financial statements" (emphasis added). KJRY used the supporting Mapleton segment data that it had to respond to the Board's direction. TP&W may not like that data, but that is an issue of proof, not a basis for rejecting the application.

The Board should move forward by accepting the application and processing it. Further delay hurts the prospects for revitalization of the Line. TP&W's apparent desperation to avoid this proceeding makes one wonder what new SF&L is waiting in the wings.

Sincerely,

  
William A. Mullins

cc: All Parties of Record