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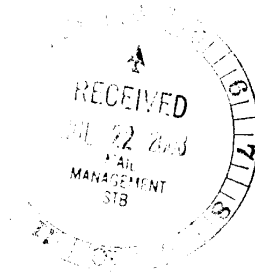
July 21, 2003

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUL 23 2003

Part of
Public Record



Re: Finance Docket No. 34342, *Kansas City Southern – Control – The Kansas City Southern Ry, Gateway Eastern Ry. And the Texas Mexican Ry.*

Dear Secretary Williams:

My name is Gary Beachner. I am the general manager of Beachner Grain, Inc., headquartered in St. Paul, Kansas. Beachner Grain, Inc. is a shipper on the South Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad. We predominantly ship grain south, via the SK&O and the Kansas City Southern.

I would like to testify before the Surface Transportation Board on Thursday, July 31, 2003, in the matter of Finance Docket No. 34342, *Kansas City Southern – Control – The Kansas City Southern Ry, Gateway Eastern Ry., and the Texas Mexican Ry.* I would like to testify for 10 minutes on the positive benefit I see for such a transaction.

I can be reached by telephone at 620-449-8500, or by e-mail at gary@beachner.com.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary E. Beachner
General Manager