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EVERGREEN AMERICA CORPORATION

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The Honorable Roger Nober
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street N. W.
Washington D.C. 20423-0001

October 17, 2005

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Re: Ex Parte 658 Stagers Act Review

Dear Chairman Nober,

Evergreen America Corps as Agents for Evergreen Marine Corp., Taipei, Taiwan, Lloyd Triestino Di Navigazione S.P.A, Trieste, Italy and HATSU Marine Ltd, London, the United Kingdom, respectfully submits its comments for the most serious consideration of Ex Parte 658 the Stager Rail Act Review hearings

The Evergreen Group currently is a major user of all four of the major railroad companies with volumes moved in 2004 via rail service 857, 405 container units for which it has expended over \$500 million. This represents 79% of the total U.S domestic transportations costs of the almost \$700 Million in and 59% of our total movements via rail, truck and barge services. Therefore, we have a strong vested interest in the consideration your committee will study in its review of the Stager Rail Act.

The Evergreen Group's total volume of International movements for 2004 was 2,579,544 container units that grew at a rate of 9.87% over 2003 and is projected to increase at least that again in 2005 to exceed 2.8 million container units

We currently operate to and from 13 US Ports on the East and West Coasts of the US and will soon add services at the U S Gulf region and as you can see by the current volumes being moved by our Group and cannot stress more strongly our deepest concern at the import of what your committee's determination will have for the future of not only the rail industry, but the continued prosperity of our great country in future.

Our planned construction and deployment of new vessels in the next seven years will effectively double our current vessel capacity and thus we must be able look forward to viable and Economically strong railroad system in the United States and thus we must look to your committee's deliberations with the utmost of interest.

We will not be able attend personally your committee's hearings, but have carefully reviewed the key issues that our rail service partners have brought to our attention as follows and fully support them on these points.

1. America's freight railroads offer huge public benefits. They are more fuel efficient and environmentally-friendly than other modes, significantly reduce
2. Highway congestion and relieve the pressure to build costly new highways, and offer major safety benefits.
3. Because freight railroads are critical to the economic vitality of our nation, an efficient, financially viable freight railroad industry is in our nation's best interest.
4. U.S. freight railroads haul more freight today than ever before, and they will be called upon to transport much more freight in coming years.
5. The growth of American railroad system as an integral part of the global supply chain combined with the growth in capacity of the new vessels as being planned by the Evergreen Group and all other of the major Ocean Carriers requires that a viable and competitive rail system be in place to enhance the plans now being developed for the deployment of these vessels.
6. Recent increases in rail traffic have produced congestion on some rail corridors and at certain network locations, pointing to the need for additional investments in rail infrastructure and equipment to remove capacity constraints.

Thank you for your consideration of these points and if we can be of further assistance in your deliberations, we would be most honored to do so.


Thomas Chen
President
Evergreen America Corp.