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July 21, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary, Surface Transportation Board
395 E St SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re Docket No AB-515 (Sub-No 2X), *Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad, Inc – Abandonment and Discontinuance – in Coos, Douglas, and Lane Counties, OR (Coquille to Vaughn)*

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

As a Senator in the Oregon Legislature representing Senate District 4, portions of Douglas and Lane Counties, I have grave personal concerns about the CORP's proposal. The CORP's proposal to abandon the Coos Bay Rail Line will directly impact my district.

The proposed abandonment of the Coos Bay rail line of the Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad ("CORP") is a major concern for my constituents and the entire southwestern Oregon region. For many decades, the rail line has provided a crucial transportation connection between towns such as Coquille, Coos Bay, North Bend, Reedsport, and Cushman (Florence area) and the rest of the United States. The area is not located on an Interstate highway, does not have easy access to I-5, and includes several major employers who depend on the rail line.

Due to the far-reaching consequences of CORP's proposed abandonment, I am respectfully requesting that the Surface Transportation Board hold a public hearing here in Oregon so that community leaders, employers, and local citizens can voice their concerns. This meeting would provide the Surface Transportation Board with more information regarding the broad impacts of the proposed abandonment. A field hearing in Eugene, Oregon would be of great benefit.

Very truly,

Floyd Prozanski
Oregon State Senator
District 4