



November 2, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Chairman Martin J. Oberman
C/o Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

307385

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 2, 2023
Part of
Public Record

**Re: Docket No. FD 36732
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited and the Kansas City Southern Railway
Company, D/B/A CPKC – Acquisition and Operation – Certain Rail Line of
Meridian & Bigbee Railroad, L.L.C., in Lauderdale County, Mississippi and
Choctaw and Marengo Counties, Alabama**

Dear Chairman Oberman:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is aware of CPKC's proposed acquisition of a portion of the Meridian & Bigbee Railroad, and plan to use that route to establish a more efficient direct connection with CSXT's network via Myrtlewood, Alabama. Freight trains using that connection would cross the path of Amtrak's *Crescent* service at Meridian, Mississippi, and operate across the Meridian Speedway, where Amtrak plans in the future to operate service between Meridian and Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas.

Amtrak supports the Board's consideration of this transaction without delay. Although Amtrak takes no position on the merits at this time, based upon the current record, Amtrak sees no issue raised by the proposal that could not readily be considered by the Board consistent with the expedited treatment afforded to Minor transactions. Amtrak strongly agrees with the Class I railroads who have submitted comments in this proceeding that, regardless of whether a transaction that requires the Board's approval under 49 U.S.C. § 11323 is deemed Significant or Minor, the Board must ensure that approval of the transaction would not adversely impact Amtrak's existing or planned future operations. Amtrak looks forward to obtaining additional information as the Board's review continues, and Amtrak may offer further comment at a future stage of the proceeding if appropriate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eleanor D. Acheson", followed by a horizontal line.

Eleanor D. Acheson
*Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer,
General Counsel and Corporate Secretary*



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 2nd day of November, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing to be served electronically upon parties of record in proceeding No. FD 36732.

Christopher S. Perry

Christopher S. Perry
Associate General Counsel
National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak)
1 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 294-2434
christopher.perry@amtrak.com