



Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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October 27, 2020

The Honorable Charles J. “Chuck” Fleischmann
United States House of Representatives
230 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Fleischmann:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC—Abandonment Exemption—in Scott, Campbell, & Anderson Counties, Tenn., Docket No. AB 1296X. We appreciate knowing your views.

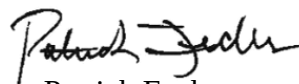
As you know, R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC (RJC), filed to abandon its railroad line located in Scott, Campbell, and Anderson Counties, Tenn., which has not been in service since 2013. After the Board granted two extension requests by the Arkansas-Oklahoma Railroad Co. (AOK), AOK filed an offer of financial assistance (OFA) on June 23, 2020, to purchase the line. On June 26, 2020, the Director of the Board’s Office of Proceedings rejected the OFA because AOK had not demonstrated a “continued need for rail service” on the line, as is required by the Board’s regulations. AOK appealed the Director’s decision, which the Board denied on September 22, 2020, finding that the Director made the correct decision given the circumstances presented.

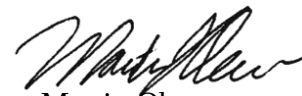
On October 13, 2020, AOK filed a petition for reconsideration of the Board’s September 22 decision. While we cannot comment on the petition for reconsideration because it is currently pending before the Board, please know that we are giving it full and fair consideration.

Again, thank you for your letter, a copy of which has been placed in the docket. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact us or Lucille Marvin, Director of the Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance, at 202-245-0238.

Sincerely,


Ann Begeman
Chairman


Patrick Fuchs
Board Member


Martin Oberman
Vice Chairman