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December 15, 2003

Mr. Roger Nober
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

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Dear Chairman Nober:

A few weeks ago RailAmerica, Inc. announced that it had entered into an agreement to acquire the assets of the Central Michigan Railway Company (CMGN). I am writing to ask that the Surface Transportation Board (STB) ensure that due consideration is given to customers who currently use the CMGN.

CMGN, based in Bay City, Michigan, serves numerous businesses and industries in Michigan and in my congressional district. For example, Lafarge North America operates the largest cement plant in North America in Alpena, Michigan. This facility alone ships some 300,000 tons of material annually over the CMGN.

As this acquisition is reviewed, it is imperative that current rates and routing agreements as well as other current operating conditions are considered and maintained to help ensure the continued economic viability of these businesses and industries in Michigan.

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Bart Stupak
Member of Congress

BTS/ss

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