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February 7, 2022

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

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Office of Proceedings
February 7, 2022
Part of
Public Record

Dear Ms. Brown,

I am writing on behalf of Jackson County Economic Development Director George Freeland so that he may speak during the public comment portion of the Surface Transportation Board's public hearing set for February 15, 2022. Pascagoula, Mississippi, the county seat for Jackson County, has been designated as a stop along the Gulf Coast Amtrak Passenger Rail Line.

Mr. Freeland requests 10 minutes of speaking time, covering these points:

- Jackson County is the most industrialized county in the State of Mississippi, home to Ingalls Shipbuilding, Chevron Pascagoula Refinery, Northrop Grumman, Rolls Royce, Halter Marine, among others. The passenger rail line would serve those industries by providing alternate transportation for the thousands of workers who travel daily to Pascagoula from other areas, creating a more desirable commute and more productive worker.
- The desired economic impact would benefit the city, as well as the entire county, providing access to the restaurants, retail, and recreational opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Paige Roberts
President & CEO



Thank you!
FOR YOUR
MEMBERSHIP