



BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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GREG BARNETT
1st District

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307811

January 16, 2024

Honorable Martin J. Oberman, Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 17, 2024
Part of
Public Record

Re: *Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation—Control—Iowa Northern Railway Company*, Docket No. FD 36744

Dear Chairman Oberman:

We are writing in support of the combination of Canadian National Railway Company (CN) and Iowa Northern Railway (IANR), for the advancement and benefit of the state of Iowa. As public officials that serve the people of **Butler County** it is our responsibility to support policies and regulatory efforts that will benefit our constituents—and this proposed combination would do just that.

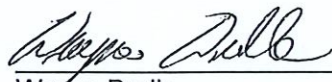
After experiencing significant supply chain issues these past few years on a statewide and national scale, when an opportunity presents itself to improve the access and delivery of critical goods, we must pursue it. Through CN and IANR's combination, agricultural goods will be transported to major markets across the Midwest, like Chicago, more efficiently. Additionally, shippers will be able to reach a higher number of agricultural processing centers, like feed mills and soybean plants, enabling entry to different and more geographically diverse markets.

The marketplace will remain competitive after a CN-IANR combination, and will enable shippers to continue choosing which option best suits their business and output goals.

CN has called Iowa home for many years and is looking to continue growing their business within the state. This commitment to Iowans should be recognized as CN strives to build upon the great work done over the years by the team at Iowa Northern. We call on you and the rest of the Surface Transportation Board to do the right thing for Iowa by approving this acquisition.

Sincerely,


Greg Barnett
1st District Supervisor


Wayne Dralle
2nd District Supervisor


Rusty Eddy
3rd District Supervisor

CC: Parties of Record via email