



November 12, 2025

The Honorable Patrick J. Fuchs
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Subject: Support for the Union Pacific–Norfolk Southern Merger

Dear Chairman Fuchs:

As a Commissioner at the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC), I know what keeps this country running—reliable, common-sense energy and infrastructure that powers and connects Americans. While the RRC no longer regulates railroads, our mission today is just as vital by safeguarding Texas' oil and gas industry—the beating heart of America's energy independence. Our state is the backbone of America's energy independence, and it's our railroads that help connect that success every day.

The Union Pacific–Norfolk Southern merger isn't just paperwork; it's a chance to bolster America's supply chain, ease burdens on hardworking families, and keep energy flowing without more red tape. Better rail connectivity means smoother, safer deliveries from our refineries, petrochemical plants, and ports to markets across the country—all while decreasing highway traffic and lowering everyday costs.

When Texas leads, America wins. This merger will strengthen our industrial base, secure our national energy future, and grow good jobs right here at home. I urge the Surface Transportation Board to let this partnership move forward—for Texas, for American families, and for our energy and economic security.

Respectfully,

Wayne Christian
Texas Railroad Commissioner

C: Member Schultz
Member Hedlund