DeWitt LLP Law Firm

John Duncan Varda
Madison Office
Direct 608-212-1103
jdvarda@dewittllp.com

August 1, 2020

CN WI/UPMI Branch Line Proposed Divestiture – July 22, 2020
CN/WC Region Shipper/Stakeholder Resource Team Information*

Since prior to inception of Wisconsin Central ("WC") in 1988, DeWitt has been engaged by various shippers and associations regarding rail services in what became the CN/WC Region in 2001. On July 22, 2020, we received notice of CN's Proposed Branch Line Divestiture Plan ("CN Plan").

Since 2012 our groups have identified a standard for such CN/WC line spin-offs and articulated a Rail Line Corridors & System Perspective rather than a focus on branch lines, a concept that does not appear to be addressed by the initial version of the CN Plan.

DeWitt has briefed and is working to coordinate with several resources which we believe will be helpful in facilitating response from local interests and potential investors to CN Plan RFPs and consideration of local shipper and stakeholder objectives. These resources include, among others:

- L.E. Peabody & Associates, Alexandria, VA (team leads, Tom Crowley and Phil Burris) – rail costing, operations, economic and development consulting.

- Breakthrough, Green Bay – Actionable Shipper Data for Rail Infrastructure Investment and Operations Planning.

- Slover & Loftus LLP, Washington, D.C. (team lead, Attorney Pete Pfohl) – transactional service for creation of shortline railroads, active participation before the Surface Transportation Board and in related litigation and in a wider variety of railroad commercial transactions.

- DeWitt LLP, Minneapolis, Madison, Metro-Milwaukee (team lead, Attorney J. Varda) – transportation & logistics organizations and transactions, collaborations in transportation among competitor and antitrust compliance, rail property real estate, public grant funding, regulatory agency, and judicial litigation.

Additional information and updates will be available on the Wisconsin Central Group and Lake States Shipper Association sites. Questions and additional information? John Duncan Varda, jdvarda@dewittllp.com, 608-212-1103.

* This is not a solicitation or advertisement. Its circulation is limited to DeWitt clients and participants and other stakeholders who have engaged with Wisconsin Central Group or Lake States Shippers Association ("LSSA") on matters related to rail service in the CN/WC Region. LSSA's Antitrust Compliance Guidelines apply to all meeting and communications related to the subject of this and related communications.