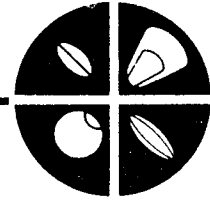


COSHOCTON GRAIN COMPANY

P.O. BOX 606 • COSHOCTON, OHIO 43812 • 614/622-0941



May 30, 1991

Mr. Sidney L. Strickland, Jr., Secretary
Interstate Commerce Commission
12th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Mr. Strickland:

We wish to protest the proposed abandonment by Conrail of a stretch of rail located along the panhandle route.

In 1984, Coshocton Grain Co. shipped 1058 cars, and in the late 70's and early 80's we shipped upwards of 1200 to 1500 cars annually. As a result of freight increases of upwards of 76% since 1984, we shipped 71 cars in 1990. Our car shipments thus far this year have been 80, and only because of rate concessions.

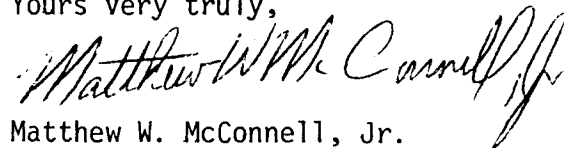
Conrail has also chosen to route our eastbound traffic west through Columbus and then back east, instead of due east on the panhandle line. This movement has not only resulted in the non-use of the proposed abandonment of the stretch of the panhandle route, but also caused a total of 348 out of route miles, when comparing cars originating at Conway, PA to Coshocton and back to Conway, versus Conway via Crestline, Ohio to Columbus, Ohio, to Coshocton and reverse, (which is the present eastern routing used). I might add the panhandle line is in tact and operable to the east of Coshocton for eastern destinations if Conrail would choose to do so.

The end result of this behavior by Conrail has made us noncompetitive in terms of using the railroad, reduced our volume by some 70%, and is slowly putting us out of business, not to mention the present and future economic loss to area farmers and the local agricultural community.

We presently have a backlog of over 500 cars that can be shipped by rail if Conrail would make their rates competitive. There are no other railroads to turn to.

We hope you will not only address this abandonment issue, but also address the unreasonable and discriminating rate making and routing of Conrail's treatment of Coshocton Grain Co.

Yours very truly,



Matthew W. McConnell, Jr.
Executive Vice President

State of Ohio, County of Coshocton ss:

MWMJR:rsc Sworn before me and subscribed in my present this 30th day of May, 1991.

SCOTT B. SKELTON, Lawyer
Notary Public in State of Ohio
My commission expires on September 15, 1992
Section 107.03 R. C.

"Meeting Today's Grain Marketing Needs" JOYARY PUBLIC

