

ERIE RAILROAD COMPANY



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In your reply please refer to our file 22965

July 16, 1959

*See also persons who
also saw you
something in brief
font enclosed*

Erie-Lackawanna Merger

Mr. D. R. Thompson
Vice President

It is expected that the hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission on the Erie-Lackawanna merger will be held around September 29th and that we will file our evidence in written form around September 1st.

We think that it would be helpful for us to have the affirmative support of four or five large shippers, particularly those who now use the service of both the Erie and the Lackawanna. The testimony of these shippers would be short and simple and would consist mainly of a statement that they are in favor of the merger because it will strengthen the transportation system and thus be in the public interest.

An attempt to draw the Erie & Lackawanna on a competitive basis

If you will advise us the names of four or five shippers who are willing to testify along these lines we will arrange to contact them and furnish them with a suggested draft of testimony. We would like to get this lined up by the middle of August so that their testimony can be filed by September 1st.

On this project, you might consider it advisable and desirable to work in cooperation with Mr. H. C. Schmidt, Vice President--Traffic of the Lackawanna, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter.

cc: Mr. H. W. Von Willer, President

M. C. Smith, Jr.
General Counsel.

Mr. H. C. Schmidt, Vice President--Traffic
Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R.R.Co.

Mr. Rowland L. Davis, Jr.
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