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Considerations for Responding to CN's WC Divestiture Plan Restoring/Transforming a System for Rail Access For Former Wisconsin Central Lighter Density Corridors

- **State or Other Public Ownership?**
 - Only as last resort for preservation.
 - Undertaken with a plan to return to private sector ownership in the foreseeable future?
 - Consider control through a transit commission with substantial shipper participation?

- **Apply a “Rail Line Corridors” (“RLC”) Perspective? See [examples](#).**
 - Virtual single-line service & pricing to/from:
 - CN system points?
 - CN/WC connections (*e.g.*, UP in WI)?
 - Full corridor WC-type “local characteristics” per conditions in STB Docket F.D. 34000?
 - Trackage rights and/or pricing authority to assure WC-type “local characteristics”?
 - Meaningful consultation & participation by “RLC” shippers and other stakeholders?

- **Public Funding for Rail and Rail-Related Infrastructure?**
 - Local freight (*e.g.*, logs) will not be sufficient to support sustainable operations?
 - Track/bridge conditions need restoration and some, also, upgrading to 286k capacity?
 - Realistic access to public funding for:
 - Track/bridge restorations and upgrades;
 - Return to service, out-of-service segments/connectors (*e.g.* Hwy 8 RLC);
 - Rolling stock - boxcars, log cars and other equipment; and
 - Shipper/receiver rail-related facilities investments.

- **Preference for “Entrepreneurial” Investors?**
 - Investors with local ties and local interests, including a shipper component.
 - Avoid hedge fund type investors.
 - Avoid short line holding company structures, potential conflicting Class I trade-offs.

- **Railroad Operator – Qualified and Competent with Credible Credentials?**
 - Qualified operations, administrative and operating people:
 - Experienced dealing with public infrastructure funding; and
 - Positive track records in dealing with Class Is and other connections?
 - Demonstrated understanding of available traffic and a plan to grow the base?
 - Adequate access to power, rail car and private capital resources and capabilities?