

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 1

P.O. BOX 3700 | EUREKA, CA 95502-3700
(707) 445-6600 | FAX (707) 441-6314 TTY 711www.dot.ca.gov

May 28, 2021

NCRA Abandonment Exemption
Application AB 1305X to the
Surface Transportation BoardJosh Wayland
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Mr. Wayland:

This letter is submitted on behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), regarding our letter dated May 13 with respect to the abandonment proceeding for the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA), application AB 1305X.

On May 20, 2021, Caltrans had the opportunity to discuss comments from our letter of May 13 with NCRA and their attorney. Caltrans' intent was to have the record accurately reflect known liabilities.

Caltrans considers the matter of crossing repair, as well as the issue of grade separation for particular trail segments, to be decisions outside the scope of the Surface Transportation Board's environmental review process. As clarified by this letter, we are now satisfied concerning liability disclosures, such that any further concerns may be addressed outside of this process.

Caltrans supports abandonment and railbanking of this corridor. We concur that no additional information is necessary and that our previous letter should not be read to indicate the need for any post-abandonment conditions.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. You are welcome to contact me with questions or for further assistance with the content of this letter at (707) 684-6879, or by email at: <jesse.robertson@dot.ca.gov>.

Sincerely,

*Jesse Robertson*JESSE ROBERTSON
Transportation Planning
Caltrans District 1

Mr. Josh Wayland

5/28/21

Page 2

c: Charles Montange, Attorney for North Coast Railroad Authority
Mitch Stogner, Manager, North Coast Railroad Authority
Leishara Ward, SB 1029 Program Manager, Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass
Transportation