



June 3, 2021

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: North Coast Railroad Authority-Abandonment Exemption- in Mendocino, Trinity,
and Humboldt Counties, CA, AB 1305X.

Dear Ms. Brown,

This comment, on behalf of The Friends of the Annie & Mary Rail-trail, is for the filing in the above captioned proceeding. A copy is being served on council for North Coast Railroad Authority's attorney, as indicated below.

The Friends of the Annie & Mary Rail-trail support(a) NCRA's request for a Notice of Exemption for its rail line from MP 139.5 nor or at Commercial Stree in Willits all the way to Samoa at MP 300.5, Korbel at MP 301.8 and inclusive of the Carlotta Branch to MP 267.72 and NCRA's request for a Notice of Interim Trial Use(NITU) for all of these properties. Due to ground movement and geological factors , the Eel River Canyon is simply not suitable for a liable and competitive rail use. The FRA embargoed the line in 1998. The line has only deteriorated since that time. On the other hand, conversion of the line into a trail(in particular, a component of the The Great Redwood Trail) will preserve it for the future, facilitate local recreation and tourism, economy, and protect and foster a variety of conservation and environmental values. Many communities on the north end of the line have been trying to connect the cities and services by creating non mortorized vehicular trails, being able to use the rail corridor would greatly assist in this process and preserve the corridor for future transportation needs. We request STB to issue and effective NITU for this line as soon as possible.

Please add The Friends of the Annie & Mary Rail-trail to the service list as parties in this proceeding. Please note that our email address is friendsofannieandmary@gmail.com and we consent to email service of pleadings. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Kosek,
Friends of the Annie & Mary Rail-trail

Cc. Charles H. Montagne
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426 NW 162nd St.
Seattle, WA 98177

Attorney for NCRA