



June 7, 2021

Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Docket #AB-1305, North Coast Railroad Authority Proposed Abandonment and Railbanking

Dear Ms. Brown,

Our companies, Humboldt Redwood Company, Humboldt Sawmill Company, Mendocino Redwood Company, and Mendocino Forest Products, are opposed to a trail system adjacent to or on the railroad system proposed by the North Coast Railroad Authority. We have submitted a previous letter dated May 24, 2021 that describes our concerns in regards to wildfires, public safety, and infeasibility due to reversion clauses in deeds. This letter goes into more detail as to the public safety aspect of the proposed railbanking effort.

As mentioned in our previous letter, the rail line traverses through two of our sawmill complexes and one distribution center associated with our businesses. It will be beneficial for the Surface Transportation Board to see what this looks like on the ground as log trucks, lumber trucks, fork lifts, and many other equipment types cross the rail line many times a day. The aerial photo on the following page shows our sawmill in Ukiah, CA with a red line depicting the rail line and red arrows showing locations where the rail lines are crossed many times a day. Following the aerial photo are photos showing the crossings on the ground.

Mendocino Forest Products Sawmill – Ukiah, CA



Mendocino Forest Products Sawmill – Ukiah, CA



Mendocino Forest Products Distribution Center – Calpella, CA



Mendocino Forest Products Sawmill – Ukiah, CA



Mendocino Forest Products Sawmill – Ukiah, CA



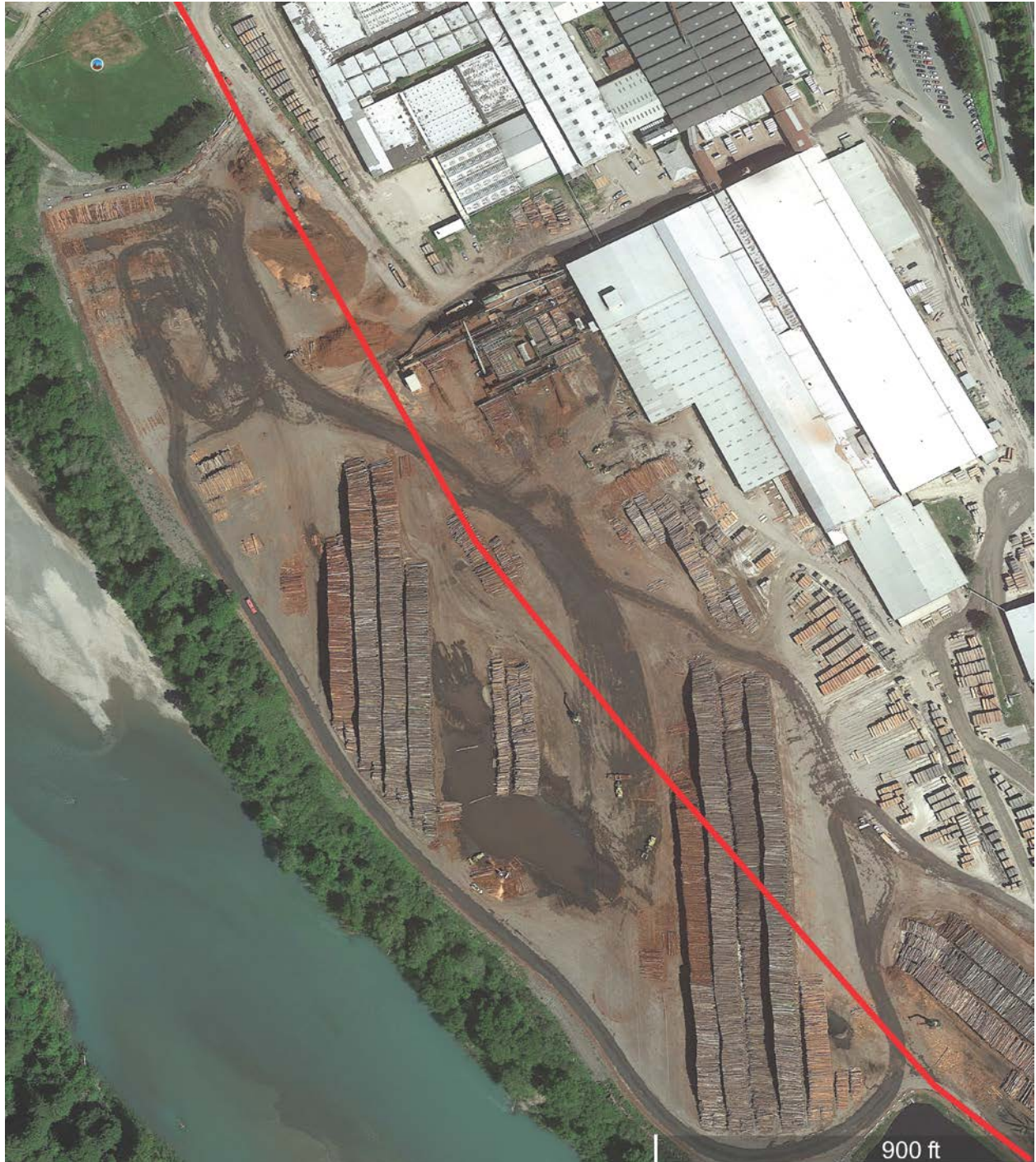
Humboldt Sawmill Company – Scotia, CA

Humboldt Sawmill Company – Scotia, CA



Humboldt Sawmill Company Log Deck

The railroad line is under pavement and large log decks. Heavy equipment access these log decks repeatedly on any given day.



Humboldt Sawmill Company – Lumber Inventory Storage

Log trucks bring in logs daily (over 200 loads per day in spring, summer, and fall months) immediately adjacent and over the railroad line.



These pictures speak for themselves. Public access through these facilities is extremely unsafe with a high likelihood of injury or death.

For these reasons and the ones detailed in our May 24, 2021 comment letter, we respectfully request the Surface Transportation Board deny the North Coast Rail Authority's request for railbanking portions of the rail line which run through our forest lands, industrial sawmill complexes, and distribution center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Andersen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Andersen".

John Andersen
Director, Forest Policy
Humboldt and Mendocino Redwood Companies

Cc: All Parties of Record