



Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

July 9, 2021

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July 9, 2021
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The Honorable Donald Payne, Jr.
106 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Albio Sires
2268 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Payne and Congressman Sires,

Thank you for your recent letters regarding Consolidated Rail Corp. – Abandonment Exemption – in Hudson County, NJ, Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X), which relates to the Harsimus Branch Line. I appreciate hearing your views concerning the City of Jersey City's interests in this matter, and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet with you earlier this year.

As you are aware, on May 19, 2021, the Board issued a decision asking the parties to submit arguments and evidence so that the Board can determine the applicability of Section 110(k) of the National Historic Preservation Act before moving forward with any further historic review under Section 106, if appropriate. Because this case is pending, I cannot comment further. However, please be assured that the Board will fully consider all public comments and submissions in this proceeding.

Copies of your letters have been placed in the public docket. If you or your staff have any questions, or would like to be informed of further developments in this case, please contact Mr. Michael Higgins, Acting Director of the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance, at 202-245-0238.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Oberman
Chairman