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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown,
Chief Section of Administration Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423
Re: Docket No. AB 1314 O X, The Elk River Railroad, Inc. –
Abandonment – In Kanawha & Clay Counties, WV

Dear Ms. Cynthia T Brown,

The rails to trails project in our area will be devastating to over 180 home and property owners along the trail route. The old rail bed is the ONLY access to homes and property for appx 53.4 miles along the Elk River between Queen Shoals and Heartland and is also currently in use by thousands for all manner of recreational activities and has been maintained by the aforementioned people for the last 30 yrs. This will not only cause crime to go up in our area but enforcement of such also not to mention health and safety issues for all those residents with currently only 911 addresses.

The taking of the area for use by a few will cause loss of personal assets and net worth for many and loss of recreational use for thousands. It would better serve the state to use the railroad's easement of 33ft from the center of the road, put in a 10ft wide bike/hike/horse trail, and leave the existing road for what it is currently used for, ATV's camping, fishing, swimming spots, and kayak launches. It has the potential to be a premier State Park area for all to use and bring much-needed revenue to the State and local economy.

Thank you for consideration,

Tawney Mangus

304-548-4007

**CC: CC: A. Rebecca Williams Attorney The Elk River Railroad, Inc. c/o Slover & Loftus LLP 1224
Seventeenth Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20036 Via email: arw@sloverandloftus.com**