

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

304836

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
June 23, 2022
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Public Record

**SEEKER ENTERPRISES SUPPLEMENT TO ITS
REQUEST FOR PUBLIC USE/RAIL BANKING CONDITIONS**

This brief supplement is intended to provide context for yesterday's filing. In early 2019 Rail Runner USA approached the North Coast Railroad Authority to propose a lease agreement utilizing an existing, although unused, section of rail in Eureka, CA for a rail bike concession. The Board subsequently assigned an ad hoc committee to develop such a lease, to be approved by their legal counsel. Shortly after that unanimous Board direction, we purchased a single rail bike to test on the track. We developed a logistical operation plan and provided that plan to NCRA during lease agreement development.

Simultaneously, Rail Runners worked with the City of Eureka Planning Department and drafted a Coastal Development permit. We received unanimous support from various local government agencies and were personally encouraged by State Senator McGuire during his May 4, 2019, Great Redwood Trail symposium. Multiple local businesses also expressed interest in partnering with our concession.

On the basis of the strong support we had received, our family invested close to \$90,000 to put a business together that we hoped to launch in the summer of 2019. We ordered and purchased 10 more rail bikes from the manufacturer in Oregon. In addition to the purchase of rail bikes, there were also legal fees, promotional materials, and other related expenses.

The combined unforeseen circumstances of the transformation of the NCRA into the GRTA and the COVID-19 pandemic have put our business on hold for four years. Since then, we formed Seeker Enterprises LLC as our corporate entity. We have an understanding with the Timber Heritage Association such that, if its trail use authorization is granted, we will be able to work harmoniously with them. Our Request for Conditions is intended to direct GRTA to take up our proposal as if those four years had not intervened.

I certify that all parties to this proceeding have been served this Request for Conditions.

Dated: June 23, 2022



Francis Driscoll, Co-Owner
Seeker Enterprises LLC