

Poole, Andrea

Subject: FW: Docket Nos. FD 36524 and FD 36525

From: Navecky, David <David.Navecky@stb.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:48 PM

To: DSeed@biologicaldiversity.org

Cc: Gosselin, Danielle <Danielle.Gosselin@stb.gov>; Wayland, Joshua <Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>

Subject: Docket Nos. FD 36524 and FD 36525

Ms. Seed –

Thank you for providing the information in your email below. The STB is currently reviewing the subject proceedings as well as any necessary requirements. If you have additional questions, please contact the Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238.

Thanks,

Dave

Dave Navecky

Acting Deputy Director

Office of Environmental Analysis

Surface Transportation Board

395 E Street SW

Washington, DC 20423

202-245-0294

david.navecky@stb.gov

<https://www.stb.gov>

From: Deeda Seed <DSeed@biologicaldiversity.org>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:20 PM

To: Wayland, Joshua <Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>

Subject: Question about need for NEPA for proposed new rail line in Tooele County Utah?

Hi Josh – I was perusing the Surface Transportation Board’s docket and I came across some filings that relate to the inland ‘satellite’ port that Josh Romney (Senator Romney’s son) is developing in Tooele County. These are docket # FD 36524 and FD 36525 (attached). Apparently he and Savage Services (dba “Savage Tooele Railroad Company”) are trying to get fast track STB approval for a new rail spur from the Union Pacific mainline to Josh Romney’s warehouse development “Lakeview Business Park”. The STB issued a decision on Sept. 30 putting a hold on their decision and asking for more information. My question to you - or anyone else from the STB who can answer - is why are they not required to go through a NEPA process?

What is notable about the application from Savage is their representation that there’s no need for an environmental assessment as “STR’s operations will not affect a Class I or non-attainment area under the Clean Air Act” – the proposed rail line does actually go through the part of Tooele County that is in non-attainment under the Clean Air Act for ozone

and PM 2.5. Also the proposed rail line will go through wetlands adjacent to Great Salt Lake and will facilitate development of up to 20 million square feet of new warehouse space which will increase truck traffic.

Our local newspaper, the Salt Lake Tribune wrote a story about Romney's satellite port project several years ago – but that was before we knew about this proposed rail line and the STB decision. We are worried the developers are misleading the STB.

Here is a link to the Salt Lake Tribune story:

<https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2020/02/02/plans-are-shaping-up/>

Here's the link to the web page for Romney's project:

<https://www.lakeviewbusinesspark.com>

Thanks,
Deeda

Deeda Seed
Public Lands Senior Campaigner
[Center for Biological Diversity](#)
Pronouns: she/her/hers
dseed@biologicaldiversity.org
cell: 801-803-9892