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Mario and Danelle Rosati
21500 South Highway 101
Hopland, CA 95449

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Surface Transportation Board:

**RE: AB 1305 1 GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL AGENCY-ADVERSE
ABANDONMENT-MENDOCINO RAILWAY IN MENDOCINO COUNTY**

We are writing to request that your board vote to not support the Rail Banking request by the Great Redwood Trail Agency for the portion of the rail line from Cloverdale to Willits

We have been watching and learning about the proposed Adverse Abandonment of the Mendocino Railway in Mendocino County. We concur with our enlightened neighbors that this sort of development would significantly increase fire and homeless dangers throughout the county and very specifically along the railway. These dangers are real. We have all already lived in fear for many, many years due to fire and increased homelessness and a variety of detrimental issues like abundant trash along the roads and drug exchange and usage. Our personal entry into our ranch is Comminsky Station Road. We spend thousands of dollars to clean-up our road, to paint over gang graffiti along the walls just below highway 101 and to post warning signs as to fire dangers-which are often completely ignored by the people picnicking and floating in the Russian River. Our property runs alongside the river for two miles.

To approve this new tourist trail would be a travesty of governmental duty to ensure a clean, safe environment for the landowners who protect our beautiful county and their families and employees. In our particular case, many law-abiding citizens, young and old, rich and poor, enjoy the river at Comminsky Station Road; this public walkway would also endanger their lives. A return to running trains would make far more sense for the residents of Mendocino County than tragically ignoring the threats that would surely follow the creation of a very public trail system where there would be no state nor county police much less sanitary personnel to safeguard this walkway. Mendocino is a relatively poor county. Enhancing the complete public transportation avenue most importantly for the citizens of the county makes complete sense.

We urge you all to be aware of what would ensue. Should this move take place, it would require that the landowners hire guards who are in short-supply and to take up arms themselves to protect what we have all created.

I certify that all parties to this proceeding have been served this letter.

With Our Best Regards,
Mario and Danelle Rosati

87 Selby Lane, Atherton, CA 94027

stormrosati@gmail.com

650-644-7391

Cc: weather@sonic.net; delliott@gklaw.com; wmillins@bakerandmiller.com;
david@schonbrunn.org; brucesilvey@humtrails.org; eservice@stb.gov; MILSS@stb.gov
julie@goldenvineyards.com