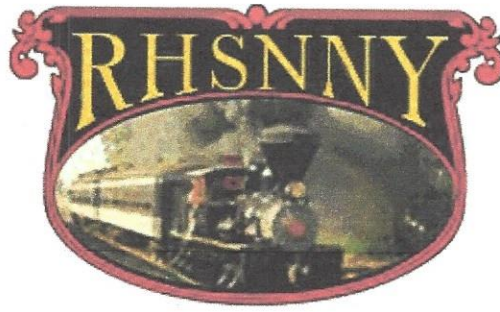




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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 15, 2023
Part of
Public Record

Railway Historical Society of Northern New York

Po Box 317

Croghan, NY 13327

9/15/2023

Surface Transportation Board

395 E. Street SW

Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Surface Transportation Board.

AB 768 &

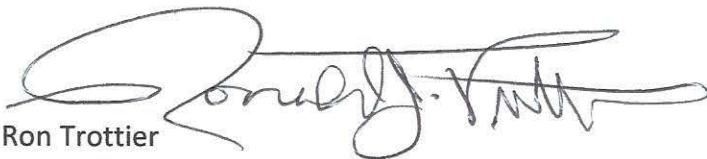
Reasons for the stay on Docket No AB 180 - Lowville Beaver River Railroad:

The Historic part of LBRR submitted by LBRR part is wrong. There are 20 nominated objects.

The whole Lowville Beaver River corridor including the tracks and adjacent structures has been determined eligible to be on the State and National Historic register dated Aug 26, 2022 No 04901.00018 and on July 15, 2023 a full application is in and being reviewed by SHPO. The track structure itself is part of the nomination. The Railway Historical Society believes that

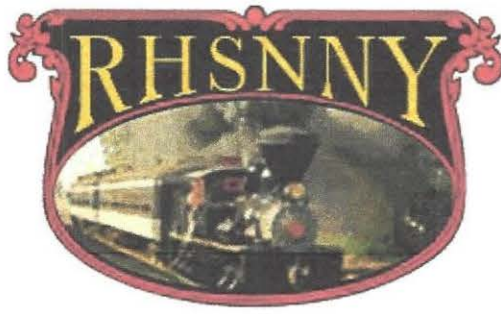
preserving the track itself as a part of the nomination is critical to preserving the historic nature of the locally-funded and manage railroad from initial construction, and strongly objects to the salvage and removal of track materials as direct objection to the previously submitted Register nomination. The Railway Historical Society was never notified of the abandonment and desires to become a participant in the proceedings. The fact was known to L & BR and omission of notification has occurred. There are three original depots to the LBRR, two turntables, two engine houses as well as the bridges, culverts. The entire railroad was documented with photographs in the ICC valuation records of 1917, as submitted on the National Historic Register application. Our equipment including the original working 1947 diesel for the LBRR and or 1988 Rutland Railroad Car would be marooned in our Lowville Engine house. We use a part of the track on the Mohawk and Adirondack Railroad to get to the engine house and turntable. This engine house has a pit on it and is used to work on engines and equipment. The public does NOT want rails to trails. They want the rails left in place. Many letters have been sent in to support the Railway Historical Society and its wishes to leave all the track in. We need it for our public rail rides as we are a non-profit 501c3 museum dedicated to preserving the age of the iron horse on the Lowville Beaver River Railroad. The county plans on only giving us to Beaver falls. Our equipment, public and business would be adversely affected. I Certify this letter has been mailed to all parties on this docket as of mailing today 9/15/03.

Sincerely,



Ron Trottier

Railway Historical Society of Northern New York



The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York
Po Box 317
Croghan, NY 13327

8/25/2023

Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Docket No AB-768

Dear Surface Transportation Board

The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York is against taking up the rail. As a Non-profit 501c3 educational railroad museum that is open to the public we are in need of keeping the entire rail in place because of the following reasons outlined below. Can we be a consultant for this docket? We would like our voice to be heard.

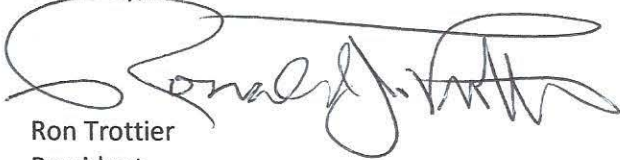
As it stands we have to use part of the Mohawk and Adirondack line to get from just after the east road and then back onto the Lowville Beaver River Railroad to get to our engine house in the Lowville Depot. We object to taking out the rails on the Mohawk and Adirondack Railroad (Lit) and the Lowville Beaver River Railroad. They are crucial to our being able to use our equipment and the engine house is one that is built to work on our equipment.

1. The whole Lowville Beaver River Railroad from the Depot in Croghan to the Depot in Lowville has been determined eligible to be on the Historic Register by The New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic preservation office. USN number: 04901.000118. Dated August 26, 2022. See copy of attached. There is a pending application that is been turned in to the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation office for historic preservation of the last short line railroad in the area. There are three original depts. To this over 100 year old line and

- two fully working turntables. Our Railroad Museum has received the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Award in 2014 for our preservation work. See attached form for more assets we have.
2. As a Museum we educate not just by books but by seeing and riding the rails. We offer rides on authentic railroad equipment. We are expanding our railroad rides. To reach our goal is the Lowville end where our 1947 Diesel GE 44 ton engine and our 1898 Rutland Railroad Car are housed in our engine house. This engine house is built for working on railroad equipment. We need the whole line in place and are working to make a full tourist line this happen. If the lines are torn up like Lewis County wants. The county will only leave us with about a mile of track and our equipment and ability to expand and grow would be adversely affected. Why should our business suffer at the hands of a few? Lewis County illegally took out 300 ft of track on us a few months ago.
 3. The Lowville Beaver Railroad also has Croghan Village water line going down the same place and many houses are right tight by the rails. It would also split farms. Lots of the area as well as the Lit from Lowville to Carthage have lots of swamp land.
 4. We are a rural area that is in the foothills of the Adirondacks where many roads are already open to ATV, snowmobile traffic and we have many hiking areas/trails already. The Lewis County ATV system in place on Tug Hill, NY has seen its share of deaths and destruction of the land. Our residents that live by the rails along with lots of other folks in the County don't want this type of destruction on their land. **"We don't want to be like Tug Hill"** is a quote from one of our farmers who signed the petition against the multi use trails system Lewis County wants. What if someone gets hurt? It will go back on the landowner. The public has voiced its opinion many times but it falls on deaf ears. I have sent Gabriel Meyer meeting videos and the big public meeting at Lowville Academy School in Lowville, NY. Where you can see for yourself the public over all doesn't want a multi use rail trail. There were hundreds of signatures gathered in just a few days to present to the board of taxpaying citizens opposing the purchase of the rail. The vote by Lewis County Legislators was pushed thru with little notice to the taxpayers against a major majority of their wishes.

Thank you for your time. It is one thing to read about something but it is better to live it and experience it. Our children are our future. If the rail is gone the living history is gone.... Remember that children learn in different ways. We need all of the historic Lowville Beaver River Railroad left and not torn up. Our Museum can be reached at the following numbers below. We have been left out of the process and were not notified. Letter was sent and delivered to the party of record on 8/30/23.

Sincerely,



Ron Trottier
President
The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York
Enc.

(315)783-1294) President
(315)519-2037 Manager



The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York
Po Box 317
Croghan, NY 13327

8/11/2023

Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Docket No AB-180

Dear Surface Transportation Board

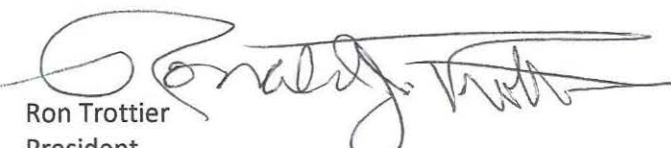
The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York is against taking up the rail. As a Non-profit 501c3 educational railroad museum that is open to the public we are in need of keeping the entire rail in place because of the following reasons outlined below. Can we be a consultant for this docket? We would like our voice to be heard by the board.

1. The whole Lowville Beaver River Railroad from the Depot in Croghan to the Depot in Lowville has been determined eligible to be on the Historic Register by The New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic preservation office. USN number: 04901.000118. Dated August 26, 2022. See copy of attached. There is a pending application that is been turned in to the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation office for historic preservation of the last short line railroad in the area. There are three original depts. To this over 100 year old line and two fully working turntables. Our Railroad Museum has received the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Award in 2014 for our preservation work. See attached form for more assets we have.
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are torn up like Lewis County wants. The county will only leave us with about a mile of track and our equipment and ability to expand and grow would be adversely affected. Why should our business suffer at the hands of a few? Lewis County illegally took out 300 ft of track on us a few months ago.

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Ron Trottier
President

The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York
Enc.

(315)783-1294) President
(315)519-2037 Manager