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September 19, 2023

Via Electronic Filing

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 20, 2023
Part of
Public Record

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Room 1034
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: Docket AB-180

Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company
Abandonment Exemption

Response to comments by RR Historical Society of New
York

Dear Ms. Brown:

This firm represents the applicant the Lowville & Beaver River
Railroad Company in the above captioned matter.

This letter is in response to the referenced letter of the Railroad
Historical Society of Northern New York (RHSNNY) filed in
opposition to the Notice of Exemption for an exempt
abandonment, filed by The Lowville & Beaver River Railroad
Company (LBRR) on September 18, 2023.

In RHSNNY's letter, Ronald Trottier, President of RHSNNY,
states "There are three original depots to the LBRR, two turntable,
two engine houses as well as the bridges, culverts."

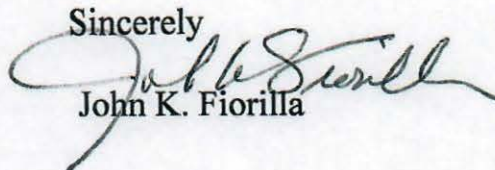
We believe that a fuller context of the ownership of those
structures is warranted.

Of the structures listed, one depot, one turn table and one engine house are located in Lowville. The depot was sold by the LBRR many years prior to the current shareholders acquiring ownership (circa 1990) of the LBRR. The engine house and the turn table were sold in 2019 to RAILSTAR USA LLC, an entity which, on information and belief, is owned and controlled by the same Ronald Trottier who signed the RHSNNY letter.

The second depot, located in Beaver Falls, NY, was sold more than twenty (20) years ago. The third depot, the second engine house and the second turntable are located in Croghan, NY, and are currently owned by RHSNNY. The engine house is approximately only 25 years old. In summary, of the seven (7) structures cited in Mr. Trottier's letter, five (5) are already owned by Mr. Trottier (2) and RHSNNY (3). The remaining two (2) have been owned by other parties for more than 20 years.

Whether or not these facilities are to be designated as historic by the NY SHPO, none of them are involved in anyway in this abandonment proceeding and none are to be acquired by the County of Lewis, NY pursuant to the Agreement of Sale between LBRR and the County of Lewis should the Board approve the applicant's abandonment request. We wanted to make these facts available to the Board and that our filing which represents that there are no buildings on the Line is in fact true.

Sincerely


John K. Fiorilla

CC ALL PARTIES