

October 31, 2023

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

307394

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 6, 2023
Part of
Public Record

Re: Docket No. AB-768X (Mohawk, Adirondack & Northern Railroad Corporation)
Docket No. AB-180X (Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company)

Dear Ms. Brown:

The enclosed copies of community letters in support of abandonment of the rail lines identified in the above Docket numbers have been sent by me to listed interested parties. I hereby certify to the STB that copies of the letters have been mailed or emailed (as indicated), to the following listed interested parties:

John K Fiorilla, Esq, jfiorilla@dyerpetererson.com
Dennis Bishop, cbishop14@twcny.rr.com
Bruce Krug, krugvale@frontiernet.net
Ron Trottier, rtrottie@twcny.rr.com
Joanne & Rodney Dicob, jdicob@hotmail.com
Richard Meyer, meyer_trucking08@yahoo.com
Peter Keys, supervisorkeys@hotmail.com
Eric Schwartzentruber, edschwartzentruber@hotmail.com
Brian Reape, PO Box 18, Castorland, NY 13620
Scott M. Doyle, supervisordoyle@townofdenmarkny.org

As the attorney for Lewis County, the County has obviously also received a copy of same as an interested party. Please have the Board consider these submissions.

Enc.
JEM:hs



Sincerely,

Joan E. McNichol

September 16, 2023

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

Re: Mohawk Adirondack & Northern RR Corp – Docket No. AB 768
Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company –Docket No. AB 180

Dear Ms. Brown:

I unconditionally support the abandonment of the above Inactive/unused railroad lines in Lewis County so that the rail line property can be transferred by the rail companies to the County of Lewis for development of rail trail public recreational uses.

My husband and I have lived here our entire life – my husband, at the age of 91, has been an active biker for nearly 40 years. Many times he has wished for safe biking trails instead of using our narrow county and town roads, along with the inconsiderate drivers who make biking a safety hazard. After using the Pumpkintown Trail in Indiana, he feels that is the answer for our old abandoned railroad lines.

These rail lines are so overgrown with weeds, etc. because of years of neglect. They are a perfect answer to his ideas of safe biking along with hiking trails. Our economy would also benefit from good, safe biking and hiking trails as an added attraction to visitors from out of the area.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Virkler

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief Section of Administration

Surface Transportation Board

Office of Proceedings

395 E Street SW

Room 1034

Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Mohawk Adirondack & Northern RR Corp - Docket No. AB 768

Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company -Docket No. AB 180

Dear Ms. Brown:

I write in support of abandonment of the above inactive/unused railroad lines in Lewis County so that the rail line property can be transferred by the rail companies to the County of Lewis for development of rail trail public recreational uses.

If the current rail line is ever put back into service, it will cost millions of dollars to do so. Because of the extremely narrow county roads in this rural area, there is a great need for safe walking and biking trails. There are numerous locations along the current line that would be ideal for these trails. Why not promote and support tourism in Lewis County by developing underutilized areas and, most importantly, expanding recreational opportunities for the county's own population?

I appreciate you considering my reasons for backing "rails to trails".

Sincerely,

Janice L. Crofoot

September 21, 2023

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

Re: Mohawk Adirondack & Northern RR Corp - Docket No. AB 768
Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company-Docket No. AB 180

Dear Ms. Brown,

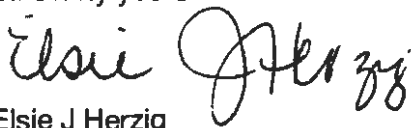
I write in support of abandonment of the above inactive/unused railroad lines in Lewis County so the rail like property can be transferred by the rail companies to the County of Lewis for development of rail trail public recreational uses

When we are in Florida, we walk on a walking and bike trail that's approximately 30 miles long. It doesn't matter what time we walk, there's always lots of people, young and old, who enjoy the trails. When we are home, there's not many places to safely walk, our area has limited sidewalks and it's definitely not a good idea to walk on our main highway.

I enthusiastically supported the biking and walking trail that was proposed by the Lewis County Legislators. I also hope this can be used as a tourism draw to our beautiful county.

I appreciate your considering my reasons for backing this "rails to trails".

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elsie J Herzig". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Elsie J Herzig

TOWN OF MONTAGUE

LEWIS COUNTY
6353 Salmon River Rd Lowville, NY 13367

315-376-7810

Bruce Williams, Supervisor
Clifford Young, Highway Superintendent
Barbara Loomis, Town Clerk

October 11, 2024

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

Re: Mohawk Adirondack & Northern RR Corp - Docket No. AB 768
Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company - Docket No. AB 180

Dear Ms. Brown:

I write on behalf of the Montague Town Board in support of abandonment of the above inactive/unused railroad lines in Lewis County so that the rail line property can be transferred by the rail companies to the County of Lewis for development of rail trail public recreational uses.

The acquisition of these rail corridors has the potential to improve the lives of Lewis County residents, businesses, and visitors in so many ways. For our town use of these railroad lines could offer corridors to expand trails used by motorized recreational vehicles allowing safe access to other communities and businesses in the Lewis County/Tug Hill region.

We urge the Surface Transportation Board to certify the abandonment of these rail lines so that the County can finalize its acquisition and begin the development of these multi-use, public recreational trails.

Sincerely,



Bruce D. Williams
Supervisor, Town of Montague

cc: Cassandra Moser, LC Clerk of the Board
A copy of this letter has been mailed to the following parties of record:
John K Fiorilla: 605 Main Street Suite 104 Riverton, NY 08077
Ron Trottier: PO Box 285 Cape Vincent, NY 13618
Ron Trottier: PO Box 317 Croghan, NY 13327
Brian Reape: PO Box 18 Castorland, NY 13620
Richard Meyer: 10455 State Route 126, Carthage, NY 13619
Bruce Krug: 2771 West Road, Constableville, NY 13325
Scott Doyle: 3707 Roberts Road, Carthage, NY 13619
Joanne & Rodney Dicob: 7714 State Route 812, Lowville, NY 13367