

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Great Redwood Trail Agency -)
Adverse Abandonment -) AB 1305 (Sub-No. 1)
Mendocino Railway in Mendocino)
County, CA)

MOTION TO STRIKE

The Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund ("TRANSDEF") respectfully moves to strike the Marie Jones Verified Statement 3 and its appendices that are offered by The Great Redwood Trail Agency ("GRTA") in support of its recent Application for Adverse Abandonment. This Motion relies on the Verified Statement of Michael D. Setty MUP, filed with its Reply to the Application, which makes the following points:

- 1). Marie Jones has neither the professional experience nor the training to analyze freight demand, which is a highly specialized activity.
- 2). The overly local scope of her study was nonsensical--only the restoration of the connection to the national network would make economic sense. She ignored transload.
- 3). The limited outreach to potential shippers missed all the big potential shippers.
- 4). Her methodology, atypical of freight rail studies, was based on per capita demand, rather than on the specific products produced in, or shipped into the geographic area.
- 5). Her breakeven analysis ignored tourism revenues, which are part of MR's business.
- 6). The feasibility analysis was so severely flawed that its conclusion was preposterous.
- 7). The Marie Jones Verified Statement and appendices can be characterized as a hostile effort to actively produce reasons why freight rail can't work. Her work shows none of the neutral objectivity one expects in professional market analysis work.

On the basis of these points and the underlying Verified Statement of Michael D. Setty MUP from which they are extracted, TRANSDEF respectfully moves the Board to strike Marie Jones' Verified Statement 3 and its Appendices. I certify that all parties to this proceeding, as of today, have been served this Motion to Strike.

Dated: June 14, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ DAVID SCHONBRUNN

David Schonbrunn, President