

COUNTY OF ELK

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October 21, 2025

Ms. Danielle Gosselin
Director, Office of Environmental Assessment
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423



RE: STB Docket No. FD 36833 Lampwrights, LLC

Dear Director Gosselin:

The Elk County Commissioners have been keenly interested in the proposed project by Lampwrights, LLC for the reactivation of a 3.87-mile rail line that will be constructed to allow Greentree Landfill to transport waste via rail instead of by truck from a transload facility in neighboring Brockway Borough, Jefferson County.

Recently the county learned that the STB directed the applicant to conduct an Environmental Assessment (EA) rather than an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). At this time, it is unknown whether the EA has been completed and if the EA revealed any significant impacts. Should the EA reveal that significant environmental impacts are likely, then the county would support an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

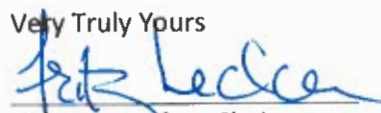
Understandably the STB cannot be intimately familiar with every proposed project location, so please allow this letter to better explain that a significant portion of the lead rail track will pass through Horton Township, Elk County. Although sparsely populated, the area is blessed with natural waterways and wetlands that provide an ecological benefit and a quality of life to the residents of the area.

Furthermore, the location of the former railroad bed, now being considered for reactivation, has been largely abandoned for a significant amount of time. As a result, it is entirely likely that infill development has occurred which would potentially lead to legal entanglements and private property conflicts.

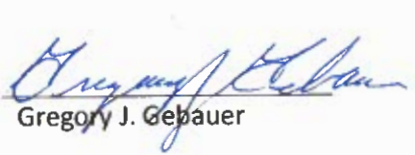
Finally, the residents in Horton Township are principally served by public water and public sewage following decisions years ago to move away from private water and on-lot sewage systems. Unintended consequences from a reactivated rail line could jeopardize the health and safety of the local population should either of those two public systems be compromised.

The above concerns are only a few of the issues being raised by local officials and residents that underscore the need to complete a thorough and comprehensive, science-based evaluation of the proposed project's potential environmental effects before a final decision is made.

Very Truly Yours


M. Fritz Lecker, Chair


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CC: Senator John Fetterman, Representative G.T. Thompson, Senator David McCormick, Representative Mike Armaniini, Representative Chris Dush, Horton Township Supervisors