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Office of Chief Counsel
July 1, 2026
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July 1, 2026

Chief of Case Administration
Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB 400 (Sub-No. 8X). SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY, L.P. (SGLR)
- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION – IN LEE AND COLLIER COUNTIES, FL

Dear Chief of Case Administration:

This request is filed on behalf of The Trust for Public Land, a non-profit California corporation (TPL). In accordance with the Board's regulations as set forth in [49 C.F.R. 1152.29](#), TPL petitions the Board to issue a Notice of Interim Trail Use for an approximately 11.4-mile rail line in Lee and Collier Counties, Florida (the "Line") that is the subject of the above-referenced exempt abandonment proceeding. The filing fee of \$350 has been paid through Pay.Gov.

STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under Section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. §1247(d), and 49 CFR 1152.29 with respect to the right-of-way owned and operated by Seminole Gulf Railway, L.P. ("SGLR"), TPL (Interim Trail Sponsor) is willing to assume full responsibility for: (1) Managing the right-of-way, (2) any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of right-of-way (*unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability*), and (3) the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way. The property is known as the Bonita Estero Rail Line (the "Line"). The Line extends from the northern right-of-way boundary of Estero Parkway at approximately SGLR Milepost AX 979.39 in the Village of Estero, FL (Lee County) south through the remainder of Estero, and through the City of Bonita Springs, FL (Lee County) and continuing into unincorporated Collier County, FL to the corridor's terminus at the conceptual northern right-of-way extension of the Wiggins Pass Road at approximately SGLR milepost AX 990.8, a distance of approximately 11.4 miles. The right-of-way is all of the line of railroad proposed for abandonment in Docket No. STB AB 400 (Sub-No. 8X). A map of the property depicting the Line is attached.

Trust for Public Land acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the sponsor continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service. A copy of this statement is being served on SGLR on the same date it is being served on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Hattaway, AICP
Southeast Region Conservation Director

Copy to Eric Hocky, Clark Hill PLC at ehocky@clarkhill.com

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SEMINOLE GULF RAILWAY, LP (SGLR) - Rails to Trails Conversion Territory for STB Filing

