TOWN OF BROADWAY CHARTERED FEBRUARY 26, 1886 VIRGINIA

P.O. Box 156 • 116 Broadway Avenue • Broadway, VA

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ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
November 2, 2026
Part of
Public Record

Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 425X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption – In Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren Counties, VA.

To the Surface Transportation Board:

The Town of Broadway, Virginia, an interested party, submits this reply in opposition to the Motion to Hold in Abeyance filed on October 14, 2026, by the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and its subsidiary, Manassas Gap Railroad LLC (together, "SVBF"), and requests that the Board treat the Town as a party of record in this proceeding.

An open-ended suspension would leave the Commonwealth's acquisition efforts, Broadway's planning and investments, historic downtown preservation efforts, and the corridor itself in limbo while the merger proceeding runs its course. The Town would remain burdened with a vacant, potentially hazardous industrial blight that provides no active transportation or economic benefit. There is no existing or prospective rail service to protect.

Residents, businesses, and community groups have made considerable investments in preparing for the corridor's next chapter. Delays will adversely affect those investments, putting historic buildings at risk of deterioration through the continued absence of economic opportunity and willing investors, and cause the loss of opportunities to invest in properties along the corridor as ordinary business cycles continue. Proceeding does not threaten any viable rail use; it simply allows the statutory processes to work. An abeyance serves no legitimate purpose related to the preservation or restoration of rail service; it freezes local planning and economic activity while a distant merger proceeds on its own schedule.

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The Town of Broadway respectfully requests that the Board deny SVBF's motion to hold this proceeding in abeyance; lift the housekeeping stay entered on October 22, 2026; promptly restore the deadlines in this proceeding; and act promptly on requests for interim trail use once those deadlines resume. An abeyance leaves local planning in limbo; the abandonment proceeding, not the merger proceeding, is the right place to decide the corridor's future; and delay harms local interests without serving a legitimate purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Town of Broadway, Virginia

By: David Jordan
/s/ David Jordan
David Jordan
Mayor
PO Box 156
Town of Broadway
Broadway, VA 22815
Dated: November 2nd 2026

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cc: Parties of Record

Certification of Service

Via signature above, I hereby certify that on November 2nd, 2026 a copy of this letter has been electronically filed with the Surface Transportation Board and served on all parties of record in Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 425X) by electronic mail.

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/s/ David Jordan
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Mayor