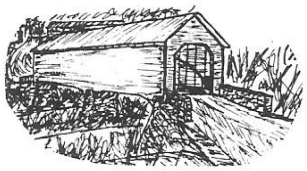


Town of Timberville

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312794

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
November 3, 2026
Part of
Public Record

November 3, 2026

VIA E-FILING
Chief of Case Administration
Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

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

Dear Chief of Case Administration:

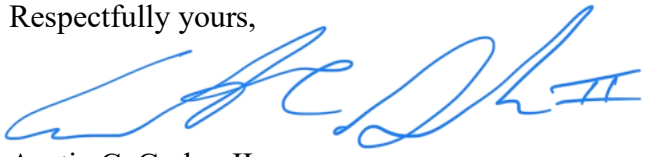
The Town of Timberville submits this reply to express its opposition to the Motion to Hold in Abeyance filed October 14, 2026 by the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and its subsidiary, Manassas Gap Railroad LLC (together, "SVBF").

The Town of Timberville is one of the many incorporated municipalities through which the 48.5 mile rail line that is the subject of this proceeding runs. In Timberville the rail line divides the town into northern and southern sections as it runs parallel with, and nearly adjacent to, the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. The line crosses local streets and runs adjacent to homes, businesses, and public parks and other facilities. Timberville is responsible for land-use planning, zoning, public safety, and economic development within its boundaries.

Several years ago, the Timberville Town Council adopted a resolution supporting conversion of the corridor for trail use. The Town of Timberville also supports Norfolk Southern Railway Company's (NSR) abandonment of the line, the Commonwealth of Virginia's pending acquisition of the corridor, and railbanking to allow for interim use. Even before receiving the Notice of Discontinuance of Service of the rail line in 2016, rail traffic had decreased considerably for, at least, the decade prior. Over the past two decades, the town has received no inquiry from a business or site selector seeking rail service on the line. Until such time as rail use may become viable again, the Town of Timberville supports a use that would be beneficial to the town, its residents, visitors, and businesses. An interim use would ensure that the corridor and peripheral structures would not experience further degradation and deterioration while such use would support our goal of improving the quality of life in town.

Timberville asks the Board to deny the motion, lift the housekeeping stay entered on October 22, 2026 and allow the proceeding to continue on the schedule set by the Board's already established regulations.

Respectfully yours,



Austin C. Garber II
Timberville Town Manager

cc: Parties of Record

Certification of Service

Via signature above, I hereby certify that on November 3, 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.