PO Box 9
Daleville, VA 24083-0009
Office: 540-992-1009
Fax: 540-992-4632
Email: breeves@vacattlemen.org
Website: www.vacattlemen.org

312814

Affiliated with The National Cattlemen's Beef Association

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
November 6, 2026
Part of
Public Record

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

November 6, 2026

Re: Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 425X) Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption – in Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren Counties, Virginia
Dear Chief of Case Administration:

We write in support of restoring freight rail to Norfolk Southern's line in the Shenandoah Valley. We have been working with the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and the Manassas Gap Railroad on this project for some time. Citing Docket No. AB-290-425X, we encourage the Board to remain focused on its mission of freight rail service and allow a full airing of the freight rail option by putting the abandonment notice and the request for trail use in abeyance.

In Virginia, the production of beef cattle is the Commonwealth's second leading agricultural enterprise in terms of farm gate receipts and support of cattle is the state's largest use of private land in agricultural production. Virginia Cattlemen's Association works to help promote and protect the interests of cattle producers across the Commonwealth.

The viability of our state's cattle industry depends on having diverse infrastructure and opportunities. We depend on having access to commodities that are not always available or grown in Virginia. We also depend on having the ability to ship our products to other markets in interstate commerce. This rail once helped provide those opportunities and has the potential to develop back into a vital transportation source.

The Virginia Cattlemen's Association supports efforts to maintain and build infrastructure to help sustain and grow our industry. The Norfolk Southern B-Line Shenandoah Valley should remain a viable option to be utilized in the future by Virginia's cattle and agriculture industries.

Sincerely,

Brandon Reeves
VCA Executive Director

CC: Parties of Record