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August 18, 2019

Comment on AB 873X, AB 55-625X and AB 565-17X: Abandonments and Discontinuances in Dutchess County, New York

On August 1, 2019 NARPO filed a comment letter to the STB concerning the above three abandonments and discontinuances which was preceded by a July 30, 2019 letter from Dutchess County , New York government to the STB asking for a NITU. Today, August 18, 2019 NARPO received a copy of a reply letter from Dutchess County concerning NARPO's previous comment letter dated August 1. In this letter from Dutchess County, a new name, Metro-North is mentioned as having operating rights on the only connection to the National Rail System for the proposed NITU and interim trail. NARPO could find no document in the STB files that mentions any transfer of operating rights to Metro-North from CSXT or New York Centrail Lines. Actually NARPO does not know who Metro-North is. So NARPO would appreciate it if the STB could show where this transfer of operating rights documentation exists so NARPO can be certain that the proposed NITU actually connects to the National Rail System.

A second point NARPO would like to bring to the STB's attention is that this line was consummated as to a discontinuance as of January 11, 2005. It is long standing STB policy and regulation that there can be no Interim Trail Use on a Discontinuance.

NARPO would appreciate the STB to set the record straight as to this proposed NITU from Dutchess County.

NARPO has served the current parties of record today August 18, 2019.

Sincerely yours

Richard Welsh
Executive Director--NARPO