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To

Surface Transportation Board

As a person who has been involved for 10 years to build a segment of a regional trail – to only
RE: Docket Number EP-749-1
alternative to high traffic regional arteries between neighboring communities in our southeasterm
Massachusetts area (Wareham, Marion, Mattapoisett, and Fairhaven) I know how hard it is to develop
abandoned rail corridors into facilities that are useful to their communities. From the experience of
neighboring communities, I know how easy it is for private commercial interests to thwart the public
interest through easy acquisition of railroad rights before anyone in the public is aware that a deal has
been made.

Rail Banking is an important tool to preserve corridors for their best and highest public use. Please
maintain the rules as they are.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bonne DeSousa", written over a light gray grid background.

Bonne DeSousa

President, Friends of the Mattapoisett Rail Trail