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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1405

October 27, 2017

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ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
COMMITTEE  
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CHAIRWOMAN  
COMMITTEE ON  
ETHICS  
<http://susanwbrooks.house.gov/>

Ann Begeman, Chairman  
Daniel R. Elliott III, Vice Chairman  
Deb Miller, Commissioner  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
October 27, 2017  
Part of  
Public Record

**Re: Docket No. FD 36137**  
**City of Fishers, City of Noblesville, and Hamilton County, Indiana**  
**Petition for Partial Revocation of Exemption**

Dear Chairman Begeman, Vice Chairman Elliott, and Commissioner Miller:

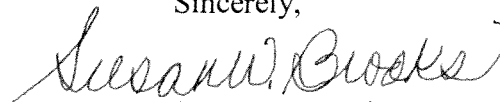
The Cities of Fishers and Noblesville, Indiana, and Hamilton County, Indiana (collectively, the "Owners") plan to place under interim trails use (or "rail bank") a roughly 35-mile railroad line locally known as the Nickel Plate Rail Line (the "Line"), extending from Indianapolis, Indiana, to Tipton, Indiana. If permitted by the Surface Transportation Board (the "Board"), this project will provide a linear recreational asset for several Indiana communities and allow for future redevelopment along the Line.

The Owners have petitioned the Board to partially revoke the exemption that they enjoy collectively as joint Owners of the Line, which, if the petition is granted, will allow the Owners to move forward with rail banking the Line.

As the federal representative for these communities I believe it is my duty in this process to ensure that the various rights of all involved stakeholders are respected and the Board follows established procedures for reviewing this proposal. I thank the board for offering an extended comment period to allow for further submissions that better examine the proposal's impact on the surrounding communities. Now that the extended comment period has closed I ask that the Board act in a responsible manner and issue a final decision as swiftly as possible that will provide a final answer for all parties involved.

Thank you for your consideration. If I can be of assistance regarding this matter, please contact my office in Washington, D.C. at (202) 225-2276.

Sincerely,



Susan W. Brooks  
Member of Congress