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Congress of the United States
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244596

October 17, 2017

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 23, 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 transformative project will provide a linear recreational asset for several Indiana communities and spearhead 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.

This rail to trail project will add to the quality of place in one of Indiana's most rapidly-growing areas. I urge the Board to act promptly on the now-pending petition for partial revocation, and I request the Board also to act expeditiously on any subsequent procedure that the agency may deem a necessary prerequisite to the proposed trails use arrangement. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Trey Hollingsworth
Member of Congress