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October 2, 2017

Ann D. Begeman | Acting Chairman  
Office of Proceedings - Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034  
Washington, DC 20024  
RE: Nickel Plate Railroad Corridor | FD-36137-0

Ms. Begeman,

Stone spectrum is a company located in Arcadia, Indiana which receives bulk inbound stone product shipments for creating countertops, fountains, planters, monuments, tile, statuary, and much more. We are stone experts in many areas of the industry and provide products from all around the world. Our location currently has rail sidings that would make it easy to resume freight rail service. Freight service would provide a significant cost savings over our current truck load shipments. We desire to begin shifting some of our inbound freight traffic to the rail at the earliest possible opportunity. We've been under the impression that rail freight service would be restored at some point in the near future; especially after the Hoosier Heritage Port Authority issued a request for proposal and received multiple bids to offer freight service. Unfortunately, none of the freight providers were chosen, but rather, an operator that only intends to use a small portion of the line for excursion train service was chosen. We've been attempting to establish freight service for nearly four years, with no success. The most likely movement by rail would be bulk granite and marble slabs. Our annual volume and frequency of shipments would be 100 + carloads of granite, marble, and other stones, brought in by boxcar. We do not wish to see this railroad converted to a trail and ask that the Surface Transportation Board pass a ruling in accordance with re-establishing and expanding freight service along the line. The permanent loss of rail freight service would be a detriment to the future expansion and cost savings plans of our company as well as many others along the line.

Sincerely,



Josh Spencer  
Director of Operations

*I certify that these comments have been provided to the Applicant's Attorney of Record via email.  
/S/ Josh Spencer*

cc: Attorney for City of Fishers, Indiana; City of Noblesville, Indiana; Hamilton County, Indiana; and the Surface Transportation Board