



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

August 11, 2016

«Organization»
 «First_Name» «Last_Name»
 «Title»
 «Street_Address»
 «City», «State» «Zip»

Re: Docket No. FD 34797 (Sub-No. 1), New England Transrail, LLC, d/b/a
 Wilmington & Woburn Terminal Railway—Construction, Acquisition & Operation
 Exemption—in Wilmington and Woburn, Mass.

Dear «First_Name» «Last_Name»:

I am writing to request your review and preliminary comments (explained in more detail below) on the updated proposal filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) by New England Transrail, LLC (NET), to acquire, construct and operate various rail lines and transloading facilities in the towns of Wilmington and Woburn, Massachusetts.¹ NET proposes to acquire 5,727 feet of track and to construct 10,838 feet of track and the transloading facilities on property currently owned by the Olin Corporation at 51 Eames Street in Wilmington (see map attached). NET anticipates moving goods and materials (e.g. bricks, newspaper, steel, glycols, biofuels, liquid natural gas, vegetable oils, wood chips, sand, and gravel) and transloading them from rail cars directly onto trucks, into holding tanks, or into a warehouse on site for temporary storage.²

¹ NET filed its original petition in Docket No. FD 34797 in 2005 for authority to acquire, construct and operate rail lines and a facility to handle construction and demolition debris and municipal solid waste. In 2006, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) added the project site to the National Priorities List under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund). In 2007, the Board issued a decision deferring environmental review until EPA had completed the relevant portion of its Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the site. See New Eng. Transrail, LLC—Constr., Acquis., & Operation Exemption—in Wilmington & Woburn, Mass., FD 34797 (STB served July 10, 2007). The Board lifted the deferral in May of 2016 after EPA submitted a letter stating that the facts no longer supported continuing to defer the Board's environmental review in this case. See New Eng. Transrail, LLC—Constr., Acquis., & Operation Exemption—in Wilmington & Woburn, Mass., FD 34797 (STB served May 17, 2016).

² NET's current plans do not include operating a municipal solid waste transfer station at the facility.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Board's environmental rules, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed project. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that OEA will be starting a new environmental review in this case and to request information regarding potential resources within the project area that may be of concern to your agency, as well as any permits and approvals that may be required.

The Board is the federal agency that will decide whether to approve, approve with conditions (which could include conditions designed to mitigate potential impacts on the environment), or deny NET's request for a license to acquire, construct and operate the rail lines and rail related facilities. Your participation in agency consultation will assist us in gathering information needed to assess the potential environmental effects, both positive and negative, that may be associated with the proposed project.

In conducting the environmental review required by NEPA, we are consulting with, and soliciting comments from, agencies and organizations that may have specific knowledge of potential environmental issues and impacts that may be associated with the proposed project. Your comments will be most helpful to us if they focus on specific environmental issues or concerns pertaining to your jurisdiction. We also welcome information on any additional issues or concerns that you consider appropriate. This request is part of an initial process to solicit comments on NET's proposal prior to OEA visiting the site.

We request your response by September 9, 2016, so that we may incorporate your response into the scope of study, as appropriate, and address your concerns when scheduling meetings, site visits, or surveys.

Please send your comments to:

Ms. Danielle Gosselin
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Attention: Docket No. FD 34797 (Sub-No. 1)

If you have any questions concerning agency coordination and responses, the Board's EIS process, or need specific information about the proposed project, please feel free to contact Danielle Gosselin of my staff by phone at (202) 245-0300 or by email at danielle.gosselin@stb.dot.gov. We appreciate your assistance and look forward to your participation in the Board's environmental review process for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Victoria" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Rutson".

Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure: Project map

Consultation Letter Recipient List

MA SHPO	Brona Simon
Woburn City	Mayor Scott Galvin
EOCD	Jay Ash
EOEEA	Matthew A. Beaton
EOEEA--MDEP	Martin Suuberg
MassDOT	Thomas J. Tinlin
MBTA	Frank DePaola
MFWS	Jack Buckley
MWRA	Frederick A. Laskey
NRC	Christine Clarke
Town of Wilmington	Jeffrey M. Hull
USACE	Colonel Christopher Barron
USFWS	Tom Chapman
Masshpee Wampanoag Tribe	Ramona Peters
Masshpee Wampanoag Tribe	Cedric Cromwell
Narragansett Indian Tribe	John Brown
Narragansett Indian Tribe	Matthew Thomas
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)	Bettina Washington
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)	Tobias Vanderloop