



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

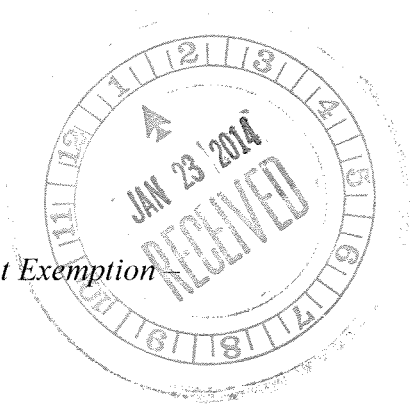
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ANTHONY J. TATA
SECRETARY

January 7, 2014

Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption
In Gaston County, North Carolina,
STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 339X)*



Dear Ms. Brown:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation writes in support of this abandonment exemption in Gaston County, North Carolina. The Department encourages the Board to decide in favor of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company's abandonment application.

This rail line crosses Robinson Road (SR-2416) in Gaston County, which is planned for widening by the Department under a safety improvement project. The abandonment will allow the Department to avoid reconstructing and lengthening a costly railroad bridge over Robinson Road that is necessary to maintain the railroad's grade to cross nearby Crowders Creek.

Please accept this letter as the Department's support for this abandonment proceeding.

Sincerely,

Paul C. Worley, CPM
Rail Division Director

cc: Marcellus C. Kirchner, NSR
Robert A Wimbush, Baker & Miller PLLC
Jan Winters, Gaston County, North Carolina
The Honorable John Torbett, NC House of Representatives
Mike Holder, Division Engineer, NCDOT Division 13

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