



Letter from Rose-Michele Nardi concerning Docket Number AB 1097 X

Junius Smith to: Joshua.Wayland

10/19/2012 01:10 PM

History:

This message has been forwarded.

Mr. Wayland,

I am writing you this email concerning the letter that I received from Ms.Nardi yesterday after we talked. In her letter she implies that we knew about the PICK decision to abandon because my letter is "clear evidence that landowners received actual and timely notice of this proceeding".

As I stated to you, a YMCA Board member was influenced By Upstate Forever, a Greenville, SC organization, to survey YMCA members that might have a computer. None of the landowners that I have surveyed has a computer, but a friend of mine was a member of the Y and emailed me to see if I knew anything about it. We contacted 54 land owners along the railroad by walking through the neighborhood, spoke to 30 people in their homes and 29 were against it when asked. One knew about it and favored the trail because he felt like he would personally benefit by making the the City of Easley buy his house. It was obvious to me that this individual had been personally contacted by one of the cities, but none of the others had been contacted.

Later in another door to door survey, we found 95 more people near or on the railroad that were against it. In another survey 95 people were selected at random, and determined to be Pickens County citizens, and were asked if they were for or against. 93 were against. All this took a great amount of time. We found out about this accidentally and no one had seen the Greenville News.

When I wrote in our pleadings that the property owners should have been notified by certified, return receipt mail, it was in the interest of fairness rather than a legal requirement. Something of this magnitude and the probability that it will change their lives, and break up their constitutional right to tranquility should be handled with utmost care. I ask that you require public meetings on this subject and that members of the Board be present to listen to the people. A decision on AB 1097 X should be delayed until all the environmental and concerns that the land owners have been heard.

Junius Smith
Practitioner for the Land and Property Owners

Copy to: Cynthia Brown, Chief, Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings, STB