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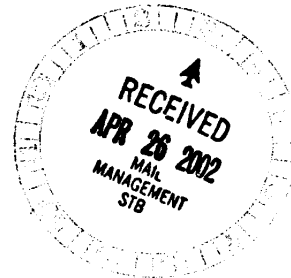
1707 L STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036
(202) 785-3700

FACSIMILE: (202) 659-4934
E-MAIL: RCALAW@STARPOWER.NET

THOMAS M. AUCHINCLOSS, JR.
LEE C. FRANEY
KEVIN G. O'BRIEN
BRYCE REA, JR.
BRYAN L. TROIANO

205265
DONALD R. CROSS (1935-1986)

April 26, 2002



BY FAX & U.S. MAIL

Hon. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary
APR 26 2002

Re: Railroad Ventures, Inc., Abandonment Exemption -
Between Youngstown, OH and Darlington, PA in Mahoning
And Columbiana Counties, OH and Beaver County, PA;
STB Docket No. AB-556 (Sub-No. 2X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

We have received a copy of the April 22, 2002, letter from counsel for Railroad Ventures, Inc., ("RVI") concerning repair work on the line acquired by the Columbiana County Port Authority ("CCPA") from RVI. Contrary to representations by RVI the repair work on the line continues to be ongoing. To the extent that escrow funds are involved the work is being accomplished fully in accordance with requirements set forth in the Board's orders and with specific commitments to political subdivisions which were made by RVI. Thus, contrary to RVI's assertions, the provisions of 23 C.F.R. § 646.210 are not applicable as that section does not relieve rail carriers from their own commitments.

CCPA has previously committed to providing RVI with a full accounting as to what has been accomplished once the repair work has been completed. In addition CCPA has already transferred \$14,252,97 in interest earned on the escrow account to RVI and will continue doing so until the final accounting is made and any remaining funds are transferred to RVI.

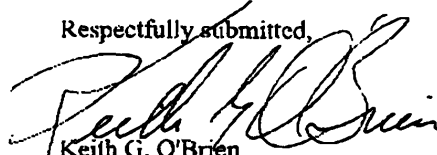
In the circumstances CCPA submits that RVI's demands are both premature and inappropriate.

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Finally CCPA wishes to advise the Board that RVI has not arranged for transfer from either VRB or RVI to CCPA of all of RVI's former right title and interest in agreements, leases, licenses and crossings pertaining to the rail line (except the First Energy easement and licenses which were identified in CCPA's Request To Set Terms) as required the Board's order served November 9, 2001. That transfer is required to be effective as of January 24, 2001.

As a result of RVI's non-compliance CCPA cannot exercise its proper role in managing the interests. RVI is properly accountable for its defiance of the Board's order requiring transfer of the interests and for all income due from the interests after January 24, 2001. The Board's intervention in this matter will be very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith G. O'Brien
Counsel for: Columbiana County
Port Authority

cc:
All Parties of Record
STB - Office of General Counsel
STB - Office of Proceedings

REA, CROSS & AUCHINCLOSS

1707 L Street NW, Suite 570
Washington, DC 20036

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET



Date: 4-26-02

To: Hon. Vernon A. Williams

From: Keith O'Brien

Number of pages including cover sheet: 3

any questions call 202-785-3700 FAX# 202-659-4934

Comments: _____

_____ original documents () to follow

To follow: ☐ by mail
 ☐ by overnight delivery
 ☐ will not follow

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