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County of Elk



COMMISSIONERS

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TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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www.co.elk.pa.us July 6, 2004



Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Mercury Building #711
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: Allegheny and Eastern Railroad, Inc. Rail Abandonment Exemption, Cameron County, Pennsylvania; STB Docket No. AB-854X

Dear Mr. Williams:

With respect to the above referenced matter which proposes the abandonment of the 18.9 mile rail corridor extending from Emporium, Cameron County, PA to St. Marys, Elk County, PA, on October 28, 2003, the Surface Transportation Board granted a Notice of Interim Trail Use to the Counties of Cameron and Elk for a period of 180 days. The 180-day period expired April 28, 2004. On March 17, 2004, Cameron and Elk Counties requested a 180-day extension to that period to which the Surface Transportation Board granted a 90-day extension which expires July 27, 2004.

Representatives from Cameron County and Elk County have entered into negotiations with Allegheny and Eastern Railroad to acquire the corridor; however, an agreement still has not yet been reached and will likely not be reached prior to July 27, 2004. Allegheny and Eastern has not finalized abandonment and has indicated its willingness to continue negotiations. The County of Cameron, in cooperation with the County of Elk, is therefore requesting an extension of an additional 90 days commencing July 28, 2004.

The County of Elk is forwarding a copy of this letter to Mrs. David Collins, President of Allegheny and Eastern Railroad, 1200-C Scottsville Road, Rochester, NY, 14624, requesting that Allegheny and Eastern Railroad notify the Surface Transportation Board of its willingness to continue negotiations with Cameron and Elk Counties to acquire the corridor.

Thank you for your consideration. An additional ten (10) copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use.

Sincerely,

June H. Sorg, Chairperson

Christine Gavazzi, Commissioner

Daniel R. Freeburg, Commissioner

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