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County of Elk



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October 5, 2004

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OCT 18 2004
RECEIVED

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, Elk 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. The Surface Transportation Board granted a 90-day extension to Cameron and Elk Counties which expired July 27, 2004 and granted a second 90-day extension which is to expire October 25, 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 October 25, 2004. Allegheny and Eastern has not finalized abandonment and has indicated its willingness to continue negotiations. The County of Elk, in cooperation with the County of Cameron, is therefore requesting an extension of an additional 180 days commencing October 26, 2004.

The County of Elk is forwarding a copy of this letter to Mr. 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.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

OCT 15 2004

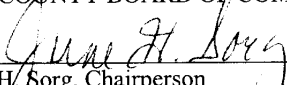
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Public Record

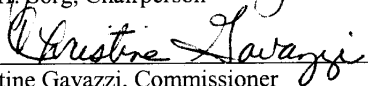
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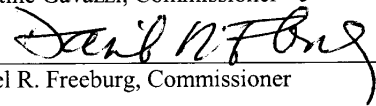
Thank you for your consideration. An additional ten (10) copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use.

Respectfully submitted,

ELK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


June H. Sorg, Chairperson


Christine Gavazzi, Commissioner


Daniel R. Freeburg, Commissioner

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