

214/385



CAMERON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ANTHONY C. MOSCATO
GLEN D. FIEBIG
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SOLICITOR, BRIAN G. BURFIELD

— **County of Cameron** —

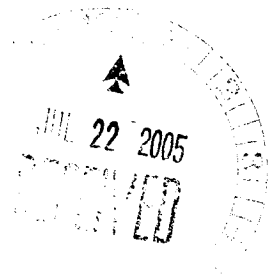
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July 18, 2005

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Office of Proceedings

JUL 22 2005

Part of
Public Record



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. Mary's, 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; a 90-day extension which expired October 25, 2004; a 180 day extension which expired April 23, 2005; and a 90 day extension to Cameron County alone which expires July 22, 2005. (The most recent extension granted to Elk County was for a period of 180 days which will expire October 20, 2005.)

Representatives from Cameron County and Elk County have entered into negotiations with Allegheny and Eastern Railroad to acquire the corridor; however, an agreement has not yet been reached and will likely not be reached prior to July 22, 2005. Allegheny and Eastern has indicated its willingness to continue negotiations. The County of Cameron is therefore requesting an extension until October 20, 2005 to correspond with the most recent extension granted to Elk County.

The County of Cameron 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.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron County Commissioners

Anthony C. Moscato, Chairman

Glen D. Fiebig

Patrick E. Rodgers

cc: File

"The Heart of the Wilds"