

216273

County of Elk



COMMISSIONERS
Christine Gavazzi
Daniel R. Freeburg
June H. Sorg

Peggy Aharrah, Chief Clerk
Thomas G. Wagner, Solicitor

300 Center Street
P.O. Box 448 • Ridgway, PA 15853-0448
Telephone: (814) 776-1161
Fax: (814) 776-5379
www.co.elk.pa.us

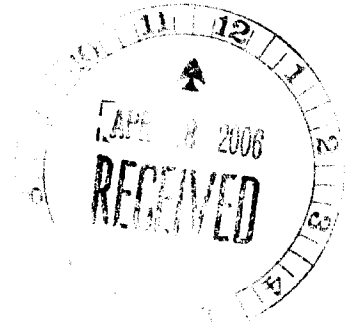
April 12, 2006

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

APR 18 2006

Part of
Public Record



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

Dear Mr. Williams:

In reference to the above 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. Cameron and Elk Counties since that time have requested and have been granted a series of extensions to the interim trail use period with the most recent extension to expire April 18, 2006.

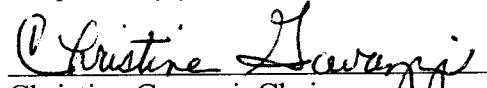
Representatives from Cameron and Elk Counties have entered into negotiations with Allegheny and Eastern Railroad to acquire the corridor, however, an agreement has not yet been reached and likely will not be reached prior to April 18, 2006. Allegheny and Eastern has indicated its willingness to continue negotiations. Elk County, in conjunction with Cameron County, is therefore requesting a 180-day extension to expire October 15, 2006.

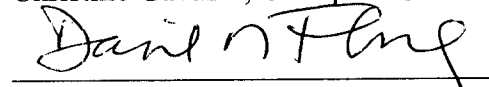
Elk County is forwarding a copy of this letter to Mr. David Collins, President of Allegheny and Eastern Railroad, 1200-C Scottsville Road, Rochester, NY 14624, requesting that Allegheny and Eastern Railroad notify the Surface Transportation Board of its willingness to continue negotiations with Cameron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

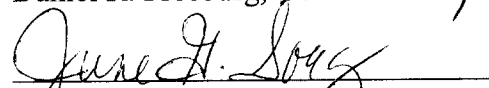
Mr. Vernon A. Williams
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Thank you for your consideration. An additional ten (10) copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use.

Respectfully yours,


Christine Gavazzi, Chairperson


Daniel R. Freeburg, Commissioner


June H. Sorg, Commissioner

ph

cc – David Collins, Allegheny and Eastern Railroad
Eric Hocky, Gollatz, Griffin, and Ewing