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June 5, 2007

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423



RE: Shannon Transport, Inc.
Abandonment Exemption in Clarion County, Pennsylvania
STB Docket No. AB1004 (X)

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 11 2007

Part of
Public Record

Dear Secretary:

This comment should be treated as a protest or a petition for reconsideration in the above-captioned proceeding. This request is filed on behalf of Allegheny Valley Land Trust, which is a 501-3-3 Nonprofit Organization interested in transportation, conservation and recreation; hereinafter referred to as "Proponent."

Proponent requests issuance of a Public Use Condition as well as an Interim Trail Use Condition rather than Shannon Transport, Inc. outright abandonment authorization of between milepost 6.0 and extends westward to the end of track milepost 4.0, and the connecting former Sligo Running Track from milepost 0.0 near Lawsonham, Clarion County, Pennsylvania northward and milepost 10.5 at Sligo, Clarion County, Pennsylvania.

A. Request For Public Use Condition

Proponent asks the STB to find that this property is suitable for other public use, specifically trail use, and to place the following conditions on the abandonment:

1. An order prohibiting the carrier from disposing of the corridor, other than the tracks, ties and signal equipment, except for public use on reasonable terms. Justification for this condition is the rail corridor is along a scenic stream and will provide access to remote areas along the stream. The westward terminus at Milepost 4 connects to the Proponent's Armstrong Trail. The Armstrong Trail is a 52-mile Rail/Trail that is along the Allegheny River with a branch extending four miles upstream along Redbank Creek to the westward terminus previously mentioned at Milepost 4. The corridor would make an excellent extension to the Armstrong Trail and conversion of the property to trail use is in accordance with local plans. In addition, the corridor provides important wildlife habitat and open space and its preservation as a recreational trail is consistent with those purposes. The time period sought is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization. Proponent needs this much time to assemble or to review title information, complete a trail plan and begin negotiations with the carrier.

2. An order barring removal or destruction of potential trail-related structures such as bridges, trestles, culverts and tunnels. The justification for this condition is that these structures have considerable value for recreational trail purposes. The time period requested is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization for the same reason as indicated above.

B. Request For Interim Trail Use

The railroad right-of-way in this proceeding is suitable for railbanking. In addition to the public use conditions sought above, proponent also makes the following request:

STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In order to establish interim trail use and railbanking under section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. §1247(d), and 49 CFR §1152.29, Allegheny Valley Land Trust is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of, and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned by Shannon Transport, Inc.

The property, known as the Shannon Transport, Inc. line that connects with the Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, LLC line at milepost 6.0 and extends westward to the end of track milepost 4.0, and the connecting former Sligo Running Track which runs from milepost 0.0 near Lawsonham, Clarion County, Pennsylvania northward to milepost 10.5 at Sligo, Clarion County, Pennsylvania

The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad proposed for Abandonment by Shannon Transport, LLC in STB Docket No. AB1004 (Sub-No. X).

A map depicting the right-of-way is attached.

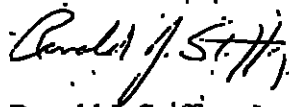
Allegheny Valley Land Trust acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service.

By my signature below, I certify service upon Shannon Transport, Inc. representative Eric M. Hocky, Esquire.

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire
Gollatz, Griffin, & Ewing, PC
Four Penn Center
Suite 200
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19103

by U.S. Mail, postage pre-paid, first class, this 5th day of June, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald J. Steffey
on behalf of Allegheny Valley Land Trust

Conserving the Natural Beauty of the Allegheny Valley

