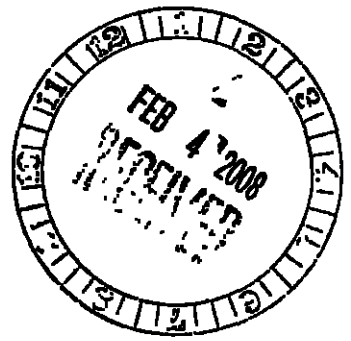


221511



January 17, 2008

Vernon A Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1014, Denver & Rio Grande Railway Historical
Foundation – Adverse Abandonment – In Mineral County, CO

Dear Secretary Williams:

Please consider this letter as my opposition of the application for adverse abandonment filed by the City of Creede

I am a resident of Creede and have lived here for 49 years. The railroad was always a part of my life and it definitely is the reason Creede is here.

My address is: 219 Wood Road
P O Box 172
Creede, CO 81130

I am writing in opposition of the City's application for many reasons of which some are listed.

- 1) With the price of silver going up, there is rumor the mines may reopen. The railroad line will be needed to haul the ore from these mines. It would be devastating to lose that ability and have to put additional semis on the already congested highway that comes into Creede
- 2) With promotion, agreements, etc., the train can haul freight into Creede which would help take the semis off the already congested highway. I know the County has written a letter in support of mag chloride being hauled into Creede by train cars which would save money, time, etc. for the County.
- 3) Parking is limited in Creede in the summer months. The Mining Museum Board Members have discussed the possibility of creating a huge parking area in the canyon and bringing the tourists into town by train cars. This will not only help the Mining Museum but will also be an attraction to the young and old.
- 4) The entrance into Creede is a 2-lane highway which can become dangerous at times especially in the summer months. Several groups have stated an interest in riding on the train instead of bringing vehicles through the canyon. This will alleviate a great deal of traffic, reduce the maintenance needed on the highway and can create a business for someone to do a shuttle service
- 5) The train could bring a variety of visitors to Creede which would help the economy, tax base, etc. Since the mines closed in 1985, Creede has become a tourist town and the ones that have to survive here would be grateful for more business

- 6) The line has no adverse affect in Creede except to the squatters who have built on the property or are using the railroad property that doesn't legally belong to them. The last time the railroad came to Creede in the mid 70's. it brought up the materials for our gymnasium that is still standing today. After that, people began using the railroad property knowing that one day the railroad company may stop them from using it. At that time, the people using the railroad property including the County and the City paid a lease to the railroad company. I know this as a fact because I worked for the City and presently work for the County.
- 7) The history of Creede needs to be preserved. If this line is abandoned, a part of history is lost and I can't believe anyone would want to see that happen.

I could go on and on about the benefits of the railroad but the bottom line is when the time comes for freight to be hauled from the mines, the line will not be available if abandonment is agreed to by the Service Transportation Board.

I implore you to understand that the railroad line is not a hindrance to our community as it is except maybe to a few individuals but the loss of it will have adverse affects in the future. The railroad line will be needed to haul ore when the mines reopen but if abandonment is agreed to, the railroad line is lost forever

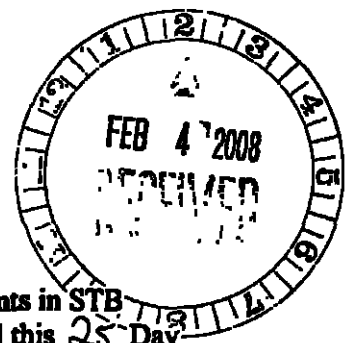
I appreciate your work in this matter and hope you look at the situation as being a part of preserving a community. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Liz Curry
Lifelong resident

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE



I hereby certify that I have caused a true and correct copy of my comments in STB Docket No. AB-1014 to be served upon the following persons by first class mail this 25 Day of January, 2008

Clyde Dooley
City Manager
City of Creede
PO Box 457
Creede, CO 81130

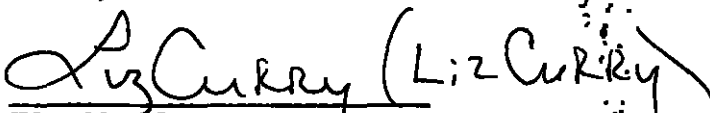
Ronald M. Johnson
Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP
1333 New Hampshire Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Thomas McFarland
208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1890
Chicago, IL 60604-1112

Donald H. Shank
Denver & Rio Grande Railway Historical Foundation
20 North Broadway
Monte Vista, CO 81144

Office of the Governor of Colorado
Bill Ritter, Governor
136 State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203-1792

Colorado Public Utilities Commission
Doug Dean, Director
1560 Broadway, Suite 250
Denver, CO 80202


[Your Name]