

Federal Surface Transportation Board
STB's Office of Proceedings
395 East Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

307156

Re: Genesee Valley Transportation filing for abandonment
Mohawk Adirondack & Northern Railroad (Docket # AB -768)

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 18, 2023
Part of
Public Record

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to oppose the abandonment of the Mohawk Adirondack & Northern Railroad (MAN) Docket # AB-768.

We are dairy farmers and the (MAN) railroad borders our property and we need to access our land for pasturing cows and crop planting and harvesting by crossing over the railroad at the designated crossings. The multi-use trails that Lewis County is proposing will greatly hinder our farm operation. The constant activity on the trail will stress our cows to the point of lower milk production, planting and harvesting will become dangerous with motorized traffic on the rail trail and collisions could be a possibility with high rate of speed of the recreational vehicles, and trespassing is already an issue and will only become more frequent.

We collected 400 signatures in 5 days when this was first proposed by Lewis County for a recreational trail. These signatures represent taxpayers and landowners that were and still are opposed to the buying and developing this multi-use trail. I am also enclosing some pictures of flooding on the railroad where the trail is being proposed. This trail is being proposed in 99% Federal Wetlands.

We are also concerned with the NYS Green Energy Initiative that is requiring NYS to reduce carbon emissions by 70% by 2030 and 100% by 2040. This is a very ambitious plan as electric trucks are not equipped to transport product to businesses in our county, because of the Northern NY winter weather nor are we prepared with charging stations to accommodate this initiative. We will be making many changes to our farm operation as a result of this plan and don't need another problem to an already struggling agricultural industry in NYS.

When the Green Energy initiative is implemented by our State and Federal governments, the most feasible way to import and export agricultural products would be by rail not electric trucks.

The county would be short-sided to abandon for recreational trails when rail service will be needed for our agricultural and industrial businesses to survive. These railroads will be needed for our future.

We ask that you please take our concerns into consideration when you review this abandonment of the 2 Genesee Valley Transportations railroads in Lewis County, NY. We ask that your reject the request to abandon the LBRR and MAN rail lines.

Respectfully,

Brian and Lorie Reape
PO Box 18, Castorland, NY 13620

I certify the parties of record have been sent a copy on August 21, 2023 and attaching the received receipt.



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