

City of Salem

David L. Bower
Mayor

January 14, 2010

226458

Cynthia Brown
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street S. W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Brown:

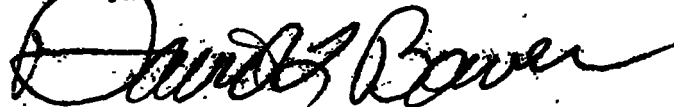
This letter relates to the Indiana Rail Road Abandonment Exemption- Martin and Lawrence Counties, Indiana. I am requesting a public hearing on Docket #AB_295_7_X.

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Salem to openly object to the Indiana Railroad's application for abandonment of the above mentioned rail line. Please reject this abandonment exemption on behalf of present and future economic development opportunities for the residents of Salem and Washington County, Indiana.

As mayor, I realize there are many considerations in making decisions. But the Indiana Railroad did not give the community the opportunity to try and help create business for them by first beginning with a discontinuance of service process. Instead, an application was filed for total abandonment.

Ms. Brown, please consider denying the Indiana Railroad their application for abandonment. If abandonment is allowed, the future of Salem and surrounding communities will be denied future opportunities for economic growth.

Sincerely,



David L. Bower, Mayor

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

FEB 18 2010

Part of
Public Record