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September 23, 2003

ORIGINAL

Mr. Vernon Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423



Re: Docket No. AB-556 (Sub-No. 2X)
Railroad Ventures, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption Between Youngstown, Ohio and
Darlington, PA in Mahoning and Columbiana
Counties, Ohio and Beaver, County, PA

Dear Mr. Williams:

On September 22, 2003, the undersigned Counsel for Columbiana County Port Authority (CCPA) received a copy of a submission dated August 20, 2003, from Railroad Ventures, Inc. (RVI) requesting the Board to consider certain "new evidence" in support of its May 28, 2003, Petition to Reopen Administratively Final Action in the above-captioned proceeding. CCPA strenuously objects to RVI's much belated attempt to resurrect issues it should have addressed three years ago.

CCPA also notes that RVI's letter of August 20, 2003, recites that all parties of record purportedly received copies of the submission

CCPA's appraisal report has been in RVI's hands since December 1999, three and one half years ago. In response to RVI's belated attempts to question aspects of that report the Sixth Circuit clearly stated that RVI is out of time:

RVI failed to protect its property interests when it
had a chance to do so.

* * *

Having failed to inform the Board in a timely
fashion that there were additional license

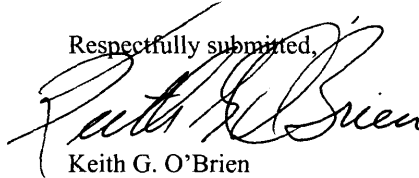
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agreements not reflected in the valuation, RVI cannot now complain that it was not adequately compensated by the valuation. (RVI II, slip op. at 7).

RVI cannot claim that it was unaware that certain license agreements were not included in Mr. Rossi's Appraisal Report. Its attempt to raise issues concerning those agreements at this late date is unconscionable.

For all the above reasons, CCPA again urges the Board to deny RVI's Petition to Reopen.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith G. O'Brien", written over the typed name.

Keith G. O'Brien
Counsel for Columbiana County
Port Authority

cc: Parties of Record