

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION

April 19, 2017

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Via E-Filing

Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
April 20, 2017
Part of
Public Record

Re: Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption – In Roanoke, Virginia, AB-290
(Sub-No. 389X)

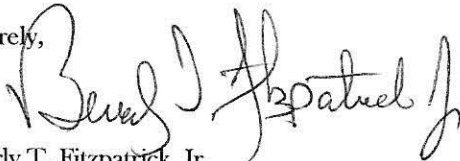
Dear Ms. Brown:

Recently, the Virginia Museum of Transportation (“VMT”)¹ became aware that the Thoroughbred Energy & Environmental Corporation (“TEEC”) filed a Notice Of Intent To File An Offer Of Financial Assistance (“NOI OFA”) in Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption – In Roanoke, Virginia, AB-290 (Sub-No. 389X).²

The purpose of this letter is to correct the record concerning misleading and/or inaccurate statements made in the NOI OFA regarding VMT’s alleged interests in the Line and support for the NOI OFA. The opening paragraph of the NOI OFA states that TEEC’s NOI OFA is being filed “in the interests of other parties as named below, whose objectives align in preserving rail service over the 0.5 mile of the Roanoke Belt Line.”³ The pages that follow discuss TEEC’s viewpoint on RSLLC’s and VMT’s purported interests in the Line. These statements make it appear as if VMT and TEEC are jointly pursuing an offer of financial assistance (“OFA”) for the Line and that VMT supports TEEC’s efforts to acquire the Line through the OFA process. TEEC’s statements regarding VMT’s intent are not accurate. VMT does not oppose the abandonment of NSR’s Line. VMT has not authorized TEEC to speak on its behalf nor does VMT support the NOI OFA filed by TEEC.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me directly, by telephone at (540) 767-4640 or by e-mail at bfitzpatrick@vmt.org.

Sincerely,



Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr.
Executive Director

Filed on behalf of Virginia Museum of Transportation

cc: Parties of Record

¹ The Virginia Museum of Transportation (“VMT”) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and non-carrier that directly controls Roanoke Southern, LLC (“RSLLC”), a class III carrier. See Roanoke Southern, LLC – Acquisition and Operation Exemption – Norfolk Southern Railway Company, FD 35976 (STB served Dec. 31, 2015). RSLLC’s approximately 2.42-mile line extends from milepost R 4.5 to milepost R 6.92 in Roanoke, VA and connects to one end of the line proposed for abandonment in the above captioned proceeding.

² VMT is aware that Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NSR”) has filed a Verified Notice of Exemption to abandon rail service over approximately 0.5 miles of rail line extending from milepost R 4.0 to milepost R 4.5 (the “Line”).

³ VMT and RSLLC are listed as those interested parties. See OFA NOI at 2.

