



**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**  
**Washington, DC 20423**

*Office of Environmental Analysis*

November 22, 2013

Matthew D. Williams, Esq.  
Matthew D. Williams & Associates, LLC  
2215 Pilgrim Mill Circle  
Cumming, Georgia 30041

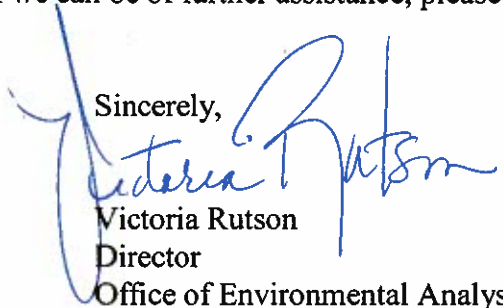
**Re: STB Docket No. FD 35756, Hartwell Railroad Company – Construction  
Exemption – In Elbert County, Georgia; Approval of Independent  
Third-Party Contractor**

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Surface Transportation Board's (the Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is approving, under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.10(d), Skelly and Loy, Inc. as the independent third-party consultant for the above referenced proceeding. Skelly and Loy will assist the Board in preparing the appropriate environmental document in connection with Hartwell Railroad Company's (Hartwell or applicant) prospective petition to construct a rail line in Elbert County, Georgia.

We have attached a disclosure statement that you should forward to Skelly and Loy to complete and return to us. As we previously discussed, OEA will direct, supervise, review, and approve all environmental documents prepared by the independent third-party consultant in this proceeding. Additionally, we have prepared a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which outlines the responsibilities of the applicant, the consultant and OEA. The MOU is being forwarded to you for signature, then must be forwarded to Skelly and Loy for signature, and returned to OEA. The purpose of the MOU is to establish an understanding between the applicant, the consultant and OEA regarding conditions and procedures each party must follow in preparing all environmental documentation. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Diana Wood at 202-245-0302.

Sincerely,

  
Victoria Rutson  
Director

Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures

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## **DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

On behalf of Skelly and Loy, Inc., I certify that Skelly and Loy, Inc. has no financial or other interests in the outcome of the prospective petition in STB Finance Docket 35756, Hartwell Railroad Company – Construction Exemption – In Elbert County, Georgia.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_.