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Executive Director
GERALD W DELANEY
326 Downs Rd Cadyville, NY 12918
Tel: (518) 569-7800

October 15, 2018
Chairman Ann D. Begeman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S. W.
Washington D.C.
20423-0001

Chairman Begeman,

I would like to introduce our Organization to you. We are the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board. [APLGRB] We were created in Executive Law 803a. This Executive Law is commonly known as the Adirondack Park Act. The APLGRB was created to give a voice to Local Government. Our role is to advise and assist the APA with land use matters in the Adirondack Park. Our members are appointed by the counties that are wholly or partially in the Adirondack Park.

Thank you for this Opportunity to comment on this adverse abandonment application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald W. Delaney".

Gerald Delaney
Executive Director
Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board

Enc:



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RESOLUTION 5 of 2018

OPPOSING THE ADVERSE ABANDONMENT OF THE 30-MILE SECTION OF RAILROAD, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE SANFORD LAKE BRANCH OR THE TAHAWUS LINE, BETWEEN NORTH CREEK AND THE FORMER TAHAWUS MINE, IN THE TOWN OF NEWCOMB, NEW YORK

Whereas the Sanford Lake Railroad line, running from North River to Tahawus was built to haul titanium dioxide ore from the Tahawus mines during World War II; and

Whereas, there are currently an estimated 40 years of high value aggregate tailings available to be removed from the mine site; and

Whereas, hauling this aggregate by rail is more economically feasible than the current method using large trucks; and

Whereas, a proposal from Omnitrax, a Denver Colorado based company, submitted to the Warren County Board of Supervisor includes their intent to purchase the assets of the rail line from North Creek to the Tahawus mine for continued operation, and there is an operator currently interested in operating on the line; and

Whereas, Mitchell Stone Products Company owns the aggregate tailings and is interested in shipping them to buyers by rail; and

Whereas, the Tahawus mine site could be reclaimed once the aggregate tailings are removed; and

Whereas local government believes that economic activity associated with the removal of the aggregate will create economic activity in the region, and for the communities the rail line passes through; and

Now, therefore, be it,

Resolved, that the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, representing the twelve counties of the Adirondacks, unanimously supports the continued use of the Sanford Lake Line as a railroad and opposes the Petition to the Surface Transportation Board for an adverse abandonment ruling; and it is further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Deputy Secretary for the Environment Venetia Lannon, DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator Charles Schumer, Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, Senator Elizabeth Little, Senator Jim Tedisco, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patty Ritchie, Senator Kathy Marchione, Senator David Valesky, Senator Liz Krueger, Assemblyman Dan Stec, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Mark Butler, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Steve Englebright, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, DEC Region 5 Director Bob Stegemann, DEC Region 6 Director, Judy Drabicki, the twelve counties of the Adirondacks, the Adirondack Park Agency and the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages.