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November 2, 2017

VIA E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Hartwell First United Methodist Church –
Adverse Abandonment and Discontinuance – The Great Walton Railroad
Company, Inc., in Hart County, GA
Docket No. AB 1242

Dear Ms. Brown:

On October 30, 2017, in accordance with the August 31, 2017 decision of the Board, TORCH filed a reply to the October 2, 2017 response of The Great Walton Railroad Company, Inc. (“GWRC”). Included in the TORCH reply were requests for a public use condition and an interim trail use condition over a portion of the line segment that is the subject of this proceeding. See TORCH Reply, Sections IV and V, pp. 4-6. The Applicant, Hartwell First United Methodist Church is filing this letter solely in response to the requests for conditions.

Public Use Condition. In May, 2016, Applicant filed a petition for waivers and exemptions related to its proposed adverse abandonment filing. By decision served August 29, 2016 (the “Waiver Decision”), the Board issued a decision partially granting the petition. In particular, the Board granted Applicant’s request that the proposed abandonment be exempt from public use conditions. Waiver Decision, p. 5. Accordingly, TORCH’s request for a public use condition is not appropriate.

Interim Trail Use Condition. Applicant had also asked for a waiver of or exemption from the interim trail use provisions. However, the Board deferred a decision on this request. Waiver Decision, p. 5. On May 4, 2017, the Board issued a notice accepting the adverse abandonment application and setting a schedule for the proceeding. Under the May 4, 2017 notice, requests

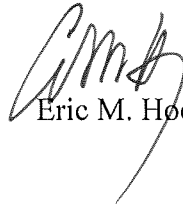
Cynthia T. Brown
November 2, 2017
Page 2

for interim trail use were required to be filed by May 29, 2017, and were required to be accompanied by the \$300 filing fee that was then applicable. Accordingly, TORCH's request for interim trail use is not timely. If the Board were to accept the request, then Applicant requests the right to respond at an appropriate time – 20 days after the Board gives notice that it will consider the request.

Please call me if there are any questions regarding this filing.

Very truly yours,

CLARK HILL PLC



Eric M. Hocky

EMH/dml

cc: All parties shown on the attached service list

Cynthia T. Brown
November 2, 2017
Page 3

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