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January 9, 2014

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief  
Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 East Street, S. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20423

235283  
ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
January 10, 2014  
Part of  
Public Record

Re: Docket No. AB-1087 (Sub-No. 1X), Grenada Railway LLC – Abandonment  
Exemption – in Montgomery, Carroll, Holmes, Yazoo, and Madison Counties, MS

Dear Ms. Brown:

Please refer to the Motion for Rejection of Petition for Exemption of Abandonment filed in the above proceeding in behalf of Robert Riley on December 27, 2013. This is to notify the Board that the Grenada Area Chamber of Commerce agrees with and supports that Motion.

It is no secret to most railroad people what the Grenada Railway's parent company, A&K Railroad Materials' main business is – purchasing and reselling rail, ties, and other track materials. Sometimes A&K acquires these track materials the honest way by being contracted to remove track no longer needed by other railroads or contracting to remove railroads already having been approved for abandonment. However, in some instances, A&K acquires active and profitable rail lines through false pretenses, discourages business, makes an attempt to operate the line, shows a loss, all of which lead up to the inevitable abandonment. The Grenada Railway is a classic textbook example of such a fiasco.

The latter A&K method of acquiring track material leaves communities such as Grenada, in quite a predicament. The City of Grenada relies on this rail line to help current industry thrive and helps to lure future industry to our town. In fact, without this rail line, Grenada would have never attracted most of the larger industries here currently as well past industry. That being said, the Grenada Railway's proposed abandonment in 2011 led to the City of Grenada to join up with other communities along this line to form a Rail Authority. The Rail Authority, along

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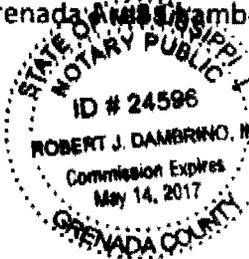
with the Mississippi Transportation Commission have already spent a considerable amount of our tax dollars on legal fees and other expenses involved with trying to save this rail line. All of these expenditures and time devoted to this cause could have been avoided if the Grenada Railway and A&K would have chosen to do the right thing-either continue to run the entire rail line, or have decided not to purchase this line in the first place.

The actions of the Grenada Railway mentioned in Mr. Riley's motion should not be taken lightly, and certainly deserved to be heavily scrutinized. The Mississippi Transportation Commission requested an Oral Hearing and served discovery on the Grenada Railway in the 2011 abandonment attempts, and Mr. Riley served discovery several months ago. None of these attempts ever got the chance to come to fruition. I support Mr. Riley's motion that a full investigation be conducted at an oral hearing with cross examination. It is time for the truth to come to light and their real intent is exposed.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated, the Grenada Area Chamber of Commerce fully supports Mr. Riley's Motion for Rejection, and urges the board to make the Grenada Railway go through the entire application process.

Sincerely,

Dolly Marascalco, President  
Grenada Area Chamber of Commerce





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January 9, 2014

**Certification of Service**

I, Dolly Marascalco, President of the Grenada Area Chamber of Commerce certify that I have Mailed a copy of this support letter to the following parties of record:

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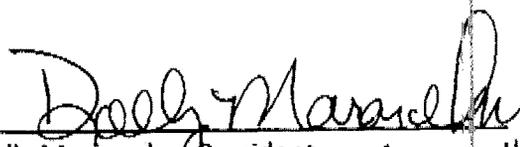
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Coldwater, MS 38618

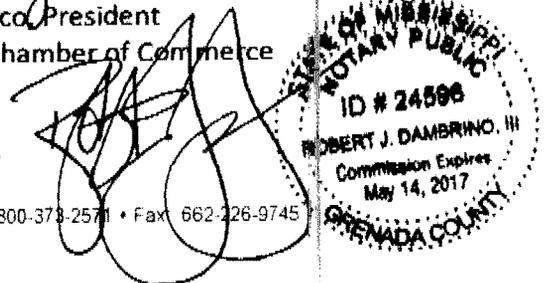
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 Dolly Marascalco, President  
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