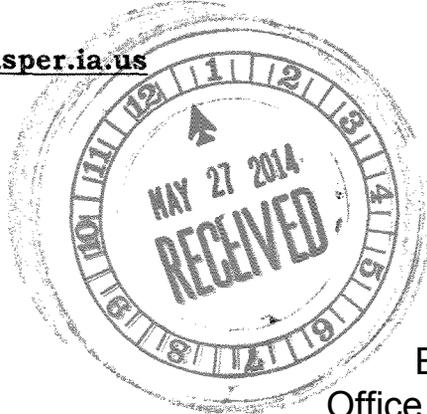
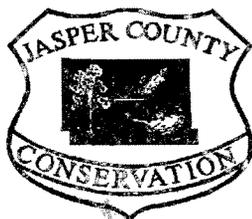


JASPER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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(641) 792-9780

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May 19, 2014

Cynthia T. Brown, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

236106

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
May 27, 2014

RE: Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd- Abandonment in Polk, Jasper and Marion Counties, Iowa; Part of
Docket # AB414-8X

Public Record

Dear Ms. Brown:

This comment should be treated as a clarification in the above-captioned proceeding. The above filing makes reference to a previous petition for NITU between MP 135.0 near Prairie City to Milepost 129.4 in Monroe. This section of corridor has been acquired by Jasper County subject to the National Trails System Act.

Both the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and Iowa Trails Council had filed as trail sponsors on behalf of Jasper County. In the end the land was transferred from Iowa Interstate Railroad directly to Jasper County rather than going through the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation or Iowa Trails Council. This transfer occurred at an August 26, 2001 meeting of the Jasper County Board of Supervisors. Apparently the consummation of the agreement was not clarified with the STB with any of the parties.

If the current petition for re-authorization to abandon two connecting segments MP 135.0 near Prairie City to MP 123.50 near Otley, Iowa, is granted, then Jasper County requests that any decision by the STB recognize the NITU for that portion of the line between MP135.0 near Prairie City and 129.4 in Monroe and the subsequent transfer under the Trails Act.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Keri Van Zante, Director

Jasper County Conservation Board

Cc: Onna B. Houck, Thomas J. Litwiler

Director

Keri Van Zante

Board Members

Carol Kramer • Calvin Winn • Andrew Stone • Robyn Friedman • Chris Herbold