

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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ADMIN.
SIS

RE: Grenada Railway LLC – Abandonment of railroad line in Mississippi – STB Docket AB-1087 X

231038

Dear Mrs. Brown:

I am writing in opposition to the application filed by Grenada Railway LLC (“GRYR”) for abandonment of the railroad line between milepost 622.5 near Grenada, Mississippi and Milepost 703.8 near Canton, Mississippi, a distance of 81.3 miles in Grenada, Montgomery, Carroll, Holmes, Yazoo and Madison Counties, MS.

I believe your office would be doing a great disservice to the regional economy should it allow the abandonment of the line to be consummated. Currently 9 companies use the Grenada Railway line; moving 3,695 cars per year. The companies using the line collectively employ 1,895 people and should the line be closed, it is expected that at least 500 of those jobs will be lost. The impact on the already battered local economies will be severe and long lasting.

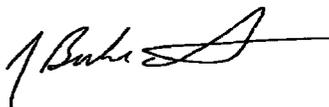
In addition to the immediate effect on existing industries, the abandonment of the line will put this region at a huge disadvantage when competing for recruitment projects and overall job creation.

Over the past year and a half, GRYR exponentially increased the rates on the southern part of their line to force customers to find other routes for product distribution. Certain existing customers sending products south actually found it more economically feasible to use the northern part of the line (From Grenada, MS to Memphis, TN) to send their products to markets located south of Mississippi.

It is my belief that GRYR intentionally drove customers away from the line in order to make a credible case for abandonment, without taking into consideration the devastating effect such actions would have on existing customers and the regional economy.

I urge you to consider the economic health of our communities as you consider your response to Grenada Railway’s abandonment.

Sincerely yours,



J. Burke Nichols
Plant Manager Carlisle SynTec Senatobia Mississippi

CARLISLE

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

1201 Scott Sreet | Senatobia, MS 38668 | PH: 662-301-4500 | FAX: 662-562-4283

Certificate Of Service

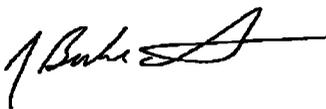
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Docket # AB-1087X

I, J. Burke Nichols, have served all Parties Of Record listed below by First Class mail on October 4, 2011.

- Party Of Record: Brown, Walter
Walter Brown Law Firm, Pllc
P. O. Box 963
Natchez, MS 39121
- Party Of Record: Diaz, Pablo
Grenada County Economic Development District
81 S. Church Street
Grenada, MS 38901
- Party Of Record: Flanagan, Jim
Desoto County Economic Development Council
316 West Commerce Street
Hernando, MS 38362
- Party Of Record: Hart, Mayor Larry
City Of Water Valley
P. O. Box 888
Water Valley, MS 38965
- Party Of Record: Kahn, Fritz R
Fritz R Kahn Pc
1920 N Street Nw 8Th Floor
Washington, DC 20036-1601
- Party Of Record: Rone, James H.
Newly Weds Foods
5980 Hunt Road
Lake, MS 38367

Sincerely yours,



J. Burke Nichols
Plant Manager Carlisle SynTec Senatobia Mississippi

