

233753



San Bernardino Associated Governments

1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715
Phone: (909) 884-8276 Fax (909) 885-4407 Web www.sanbag.ca.gov



- San Bernardino County Transportation Commission ■ San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
- San Bernardino County Congestion Management Agency ■ Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies

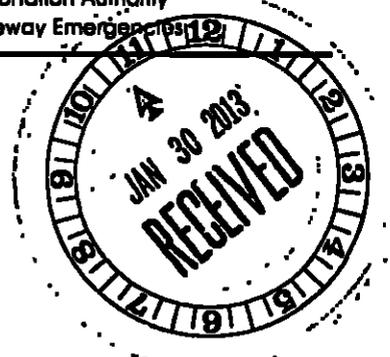
January 15, 2013

Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN 30 2013

Part of
Public Record



RE: STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 296X), Petition for Abandonment Exemption of two segments of the Riverside Industrial Lead in California.

Dear Ms Brown,

The San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) would like to express its support for the Union Pacific Railroad's (UPRR) letter dated January 4, 2013, that petitions the abandonment of portions of the Riverside Industrial Lead line. SANBAG is the regional transportation agency for the County of San Bernardino in the State of California.

The abandonment of this line provides two major benefits to SANBAG and the citizens of San Bernardino County. First, a portion of the existing rail line runs through a residential community in South Colton, California. While this community developed around the railroad, the relocation of the Riverside Industrial Lead line offers a chance to improve the quality of life for the residents of Colton. A portion of this rail line currently lies in the middle of a residential street, and is adjacent to an elementary school and a public park. The abandonment of the rail line in this area will enhance safety for motorists and pedestrians.

Secondly, SANBAG is about to commence construction to widen the I-215 freeway, which the Riverside Industrial Lead line passes over. Construction of the freeway improvements are scheduled to commence in February. The approval of the abandonment in a timely manner will allow the construction of these much needed freeway improvements to proceed on schedule.

SANBAG respectfully requests that the Board approve UPRR's request for the abandonment of the rail line to allow the salvage of the railroad bridge over the I-215 freeway to begin by February 1, 2013.

We truly appreciate the opportunity to send this letter of support for this project. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (909) 884-8276.

Sincerely,

Garry Cohoe
Director of Project Delivery

Cities of Adelanto, Barstow, Big Bear Lake, Chino, Chino Hills, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Hesperia, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Needles, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Twentynine Palms, Upland, Victorville, Yucaipa
Towns of Apple Valley, Yucca Valley County of San Bernardino

CB130115-GC