



Keith Goodwin - Commissioner Dist. 1
Kevin Karney - Commissioner Dist. 2
Jim Baldwin - Commissioner Dist. 3
Michael L. Nicklos - County Attorney
Jean Hinkle - County Administrator

239952

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 27, 2016
Part of
Public Record

Office of the Commissioners

January 4, 2016

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423



Re: Docket No. AB603 (Sub-N0.4X), V and S Railway, LLC – Abandonment Exemption in Crowley, Otero, and Kiowa Counties

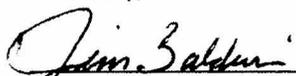
Dear Ms. Brown,

This letter is in support of KCVN, LLC's (KCVN) petition to the Surface Transportation Board to reject the "Amended Verified Notice of Exemption" ("Amended Notice") filed by V and S Railway, LLC, ("V & S") in the docket of November 30, 2015.

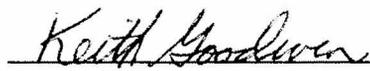
KCVN and its wholly owned subsidiary, Colorado and Pacific Railroad, LLC have filed with the Surface Transportation Board their intentions to produce an Offer of Financial Assistance to the secure the rail line from V & S, and to make the necessary investments and actions to restore freight service over the rail line for shippers. Since its acquisition from the State of Colorado, V & S has demonstrated no willingness to make the necessary steps to restore freight service over the rail line.

We request that the Surface Transportation Board employ whatever authority that is within their jurisdiction to reject the Amended Notice and expedite the transfer of ownership of the rail line from V and S Railway, LLC to KCVN/Colorado Pacific Railroad. Viable operation of this line is extremely important to the economy of Kiowa County, and all of Southeast Colorado. Operation of the line will also relieve much of the heavy truck traffic from the under-maintained, under-funded highway system in the Southeast Colorado region.

Sincerely,



Jim Baldwin, Chairman



Keith Goodwin

CC: Kiowa County Commissioners
Crowley County Commissioners

(719)383-3000 13 W. 3rd Street, Room 212 La Junta, CO 81050 (719)383-3090 Fax



(719)383-2456 TDD

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Docket Number: AB603 (SUB-NO.4X)

I DO CERTIFY THAT ON THIS 6TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2016, I HAVE SERVED A COPY OF THE FOREGOING ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION REJECTION REQUEST BY U.S. FIRST CLASS MAIL TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS OF RECORD IN THE ABOVE NAMED PROCEEDING:

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Eric M. Hocky
Clark Hill, PLC
One Commerce Square
2005 Market St., Suite 1000
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Thomas W. Wilcox
Gkg Law, PC
The Foundry Building
1055 Thomas Jefferson St., NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20007

I DO CERTIFY THAT ON THIS 6TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2016, I HAVE SERVED A COPY OF THE FOREGOING ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION REJECTION REQUEST BY ELECTRONIC MAIL (EMAIL) TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS OF RECORD IN THE ABOVE NAMED PROCEEDING:

Kiowa County – kiowaco100@gmail.com

Crowley County Commissioners –
Tobe Allumbaugh - tobe@crowleycounty.net
Gary Gibson - gary@crowleycounty.net
Frank Grant - fgrant@crowleycounty.net



Jean Hinkle, Otero County Administrator