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LAW OFFICE
THOMAS F. MCFARLAND, PC.
208 SOUTH LASALLE STREET - SUITE 1890
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-1112
TELEPHONE (312) 236-0204
FAX (312) 201-9695
mcfarland@aol.com

THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

January 18, 2012

By e-filing

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20024

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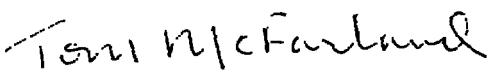
Re: Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X), *Union Pacific Railroad Company --
Abandonment Exemption -- in Lafourche Parish, LA*

Dear Ms. Brown:

This refers to the letter to you dated January 16, 2012 from Mack H. Schumate, Jr., Esq., Senior General Attorney for Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) in which UP states that it is willing to negotiate with LaFourche Parish for railbanking and interim recreational trail use in the above proceeding.

Valentine, LLC opposes railbanking and recreational trail use in the above proceeding. The Board does not have jurisdiction to issue a Notice of Interim Trail Use or Abandonment in this proceeding because the authority of BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) to operate over the rail line precludes the Board from authorizing abandonment of the rail line (The Board can authorize UP to discontinue rail service over the line). Without an authorized abandonment, the rail line cannot lawfully be railbanked and used as a trail on an interim basis under 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d).

Very Truly Yours,



Thomas F. McFarland
Attorney for Valentine LLC

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- cc: (by e-mail)
Mack Shumate, Esq., *mackshumate@up.com*
Courtney Biery Estes, Esq., *courtney.estes@bnsf.com*
Mr. Hugh Caffery, *hugh@valentinechemicals.com*
Mr. Freddie Delaune, *freddied@bollingershipyards.com*