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SANTA MARIA VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY

P.O. Box 340 • 625 S. McClelland St. • Santa Maria, California 93456-0340
Telephone (805) 922-7941
FAX (805) 922-9554

December 3, 2002



VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Mercury Building
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Docket No. AB-844, Santa Maria Valley Railroad – proposed abandonment of 4.87 miles of rail line – Santa Maria, California

Dear Secretary Williams:

Santa Maria Valley Railroad (“SMVRR”) is in receipt of the trail request filed by the City of Santa Maria, California on December 2, 2002. This letter is intended to inform the Board that SMVRR is unwilling to negotiate for an interim trail use on the property that is the subject of the above captioned abandonment.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Curtis Ballantyne".

R. CURTIS BALLANTYNE
OF
HILL, FARRER & BURRILL LLP
Attorneys for Santa Maria Valley
Railroad Company

RCB:rcb

cc: Mr. Tim S. Ness
City Manager, City of Santa Maria
110 East Cook Street, Room #1
Santa Maria, CA 93454-5190

Mr. Mike Parry

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

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