

BAKER BOTTS LLP

THE WARNER
1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., NW
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20004-2400

TEL +1 202.639.7700
FAX +1 202.639.7890
www.bakerbotts.com

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January 26, 2006

Via Hand Delivery

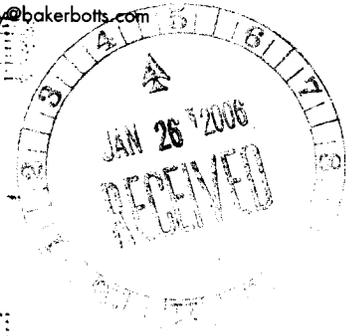
The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

J. Patrick Berry
TEL +1 202-639-7746
FAX +1 202-585-1005
patrick.berry@bakerbotts.com

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RE: Comments Supporting Petition for Exemption filed
by New England Transrail, LLC
FD-34797

Dear Secretary Williams:

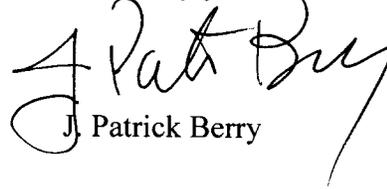
Enclosed for filing are an original and ten (10) copies of the comments of The Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Inc. in support of the Petition for Exemption filed by New England Transrail, LLC, Finance Docket Number 34797. Please time-stamp the extra copy and return it to our messenger.

We are hereby requesting that the following individual be added to the official service list:

Hon. John W. Carrington, Sr.
The M.W. Grand Master of
The Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Inc.
Bay State Grand Chapter
Youth Development Center
98 Talbot Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02124

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Very truly yours,


J. Patrick Berry



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January 23, 2006

Vernon Williams, Secretary
United States Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: New England Transrail, LLC

Dear Secretary Williams:

This letter is to express my strong support for the New England Transrail, (NET) facility proposed transload operation in Wilmington, Massachusetts. I am the Grand Master for the Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. Inc. I am also the Director for the Hiram Youth Development Center, located at 98 Talbot Avenue Dorchester, Massachusetts.

New England Transrail, LLC's efforts to increase rail transportation into New England should be strongly supported in an expeditious manner by the Surface Transportation Board. As a minority owned entity, NET represents an excellent opportunity to further African-American interests in an industry in which we have been severely underrepresented.

I believe the environmental benefits of rail transportation over long-haul freight trucking are well documented. Pollution impacts from long-haul freight trucks fall disproportionately on minority communities which are the locations of some of the most congested portions on the interstate road system serving New England. Projects such as NET's which will divert trucks from these congested roadways onto our rail system should be encouraged.

The members and families of our Masonic and Eastern Star organizations have a significantly higher rate of diseases such as, high blood pressure, asthma, lung, heart disease, stroke and many types of cancer. The areas of our community that have a higher exposure to diesel fuel pollutants, truck noises, etc. are the same areas that have excessively higher rates of the ailments listed above and more.

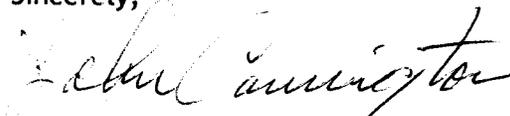
We must improve our environment. We can not afford to continue to have large trucks pollute our environment because of the use of lethal fossil fuels. With the high price of gasoline, the most cost saving device that I can think of to transport contaminants and solid waste would be rail transportation and we will reduce the exposure of our population to pollutants from diesel.

Not only will NET's project help our community, but it will improve air quality, lower road congestion, government repair, maintenance costs and increase highway safety.

This will also contribute to the reduction of America's dependence on foreign oil. This one project could reduce diesel fuel dependency by over a million gallons annually.

I strongly support the NET proposal to transport contaminants by rail so that our inner cities can be free of pollutants. I urge you to give this project prompt and expeditious consideration and approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John W. Carrington, Sr.", written in dark ink.

Hon. John W. Carrington, Sr.

The M.W. Grand Master of

The Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that on this 26 day of January, 2006, I served a copy of the foregoing comments of The Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Inc. in support of New England Transrail's Petition for Exemption by causing a copy to be delivered by first class mail, postage prepaid, to:

James R Miceli
Commonwealth Of Massachusetts
Room 167, State House
Boston, MA 02133-1054

Patrick John Cane
Mercer County Improvement Authority
640 S Broad St
Trenton, NJ 08650

Stephen M. Richmond
Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.
45 William Street, Suite 120
Wellsley, MA 02481

Susan P. Ruch
Massachusetts Department Of
Environmental Protection Northeast Regional Office
205B Lowell Street
Wilmington, MA 01887

Daniel R. Deutsch
Deutsch Williams Brooks Derensis & Holland, P.C.
99 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02110-1235

Arthur G. Mansilia
United Tool & Die Co., Inc.
Eames Street
Wilmington, MA 01887

M. Barbara Sullivan
27 Gunderson Road
Wilmington, MA 01887-1546

Robert A. Rio
Associated Industries of Massachusetts
P.O. Box 763
Boston, MA 02117-0763

Deborah L. Duggan
11 Hillcrest Street
Wilmington, MA 01887

Thomas E. Dew
Berry Moorman
900 Victors Way - Suite 300
Ann Arbor, MI 48108-2705

Nyjah Wyche, Project Coordinator
Health Education and Learning Program for Black Males Health
University of Massachusetts, Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125-3393

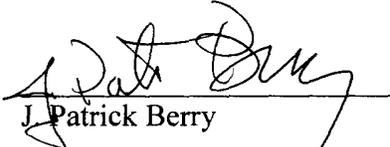
P. Christopher Podgurski
Podgurski Corp.
8 Springfield Ave.
Canton, MA 02021-3205

Frank S. DeMasi
26 MacArthur Road
Wellesley, MA 02482

Hon. John W. Carrington, Sr.
The M.W. Grand Master of
The Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Inc.
Bay State Grand Chapter
Youth Development Center
98 Talbot Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02124

Senator Bill Owens (Ret.)
115 Hazelton Street
Mattapan, MA 02121

Arthur Williams, Chairman
Structural Committee
National Black Agenda Convention, Inc.
P.O. Box 366211
Boston, MA 02136-9998


J. Patrick Berry