



P O Box 131 Center Point, IA., 52213-0131 319-849-1844
 Tom F. Neenan, Executive Director

2 16358



ITC Board Members

- Joy Adams, Monticello
- Penny Bates, Cedar Rapids
- Don Benson, Clive
- Kate Cantek, Orange
- Eldon Colton, Hiawatha*
- Terry Dahms, Iowa City*
- Duane Eldred, Urbana*
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- Dwight Saunders, Des Moines
- Alice Schuler, Des Moines
- Dick Siefers, Iowa City*
- Jerry Tempel, Waterloo*
- Gregory Vitale, Ames

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- Robert Chadima, Cedar Rapids
- Douglas Cheever, Dubuque
- Layona Colton, Hiawatha
- Clive Cook, Marion
- Kathy Cuddeback, Brighton
- Marvin Diemer, Cedar Falls
- Roy Ewen, Cedar Rapids
- Don Gerken, Waterloo
- Richard George, Mt. Vernon
- Samuel Gooden, Dike
- E. Rees Hakanson, Boone
- Mary Lou Hastery, Cedar Rapids
- Marilyn Magid, Cedar Rapids
- Chuck Offenburger, Storm Lake
- David Olson, Carroll
- David Osterberg, Mt. Vernon
- Keith Peterson, Panora
- Donald Thomas, Cedar Rapids
- Rick Young, Waterloo
- Hank Zaretsl, Nevada
- Frank Zigrang, Humboldt

April 24, 2006

Vernon A. Williams
 Surface Transportation Board
 1925 "K" Street
 Washington, D. C., 20423

ENTERED
 Office of Proceedings

Ref. AB-586 (Sub No. 2X)

APR 20 2006

Part of
 Public Record

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Iowa Trails Council (ITC) is requesting the granting of a Notice of Interim Trail Use and a Public Use Condition on the above proposed railroad abandonment. We are asking for assignment of a 180 day period in which to negotiate acquisition of this right-of-way with the North Central Railway Association (NCRA). In doing so we are representing the interests of the Hardin County Conservation Board as well as the interests of the Iowa Trails Council.

This 10.54 mile right-of-way is located in Hardin County, Iowa, extending from milepost 201.46, near Ackley to milepost 212.00, near Steamboat Rock

We have no objections to the continuing of railroad service on this line but if this service is to be terminated we believe the right-of-way should be preserved for possible reactivation of rail service by retaining the corridor as a recreational trail. The Conservation Board concurs with us that there is a need for additional recreational facilities in this area, as well as a need to provide more routes for energy efficient modes of transportation. There is, in addition, the opportunity to use this right-of-way for the installation of utility lines that will, in turn, help to preserve more valuable crop land from being used for this purpose.

This particular rail corridor would serve to join together two metropolitan areas and would provide a means of economic assistance to these communities and to the surrounding area. In granting permission for this period of negotiation between the ITC and the NCRA we request that you also specify that no bridges, culverts, trestles, or ballast be removed from the right-of-way during our negotiation time.

The ITC and the Hardin County Conservation Board are willing to assume full responsibility for the management of the land, for the legal liability arising out of the transfer of the property (unless the user is immune from liability) and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed after transfer of title. We acknowledge that the use of this right-of-way as a trail is contingent upon the ITC and the Hardin Conservation Board continuing to meet these financial responsibilities.

It is also agreed that the use of this right-of-way as a trail will be terminated if there is a need, in the future, for reactivation of rail service, as provided by U. S. C. 1247 and CFR 1159.28, Section 8 (d) of the National Trails System Act Amendment of 1983.

Affiliates: American Discovery Trail Society-American Hiking Society-Rails/Trails Conservancy-American Trails

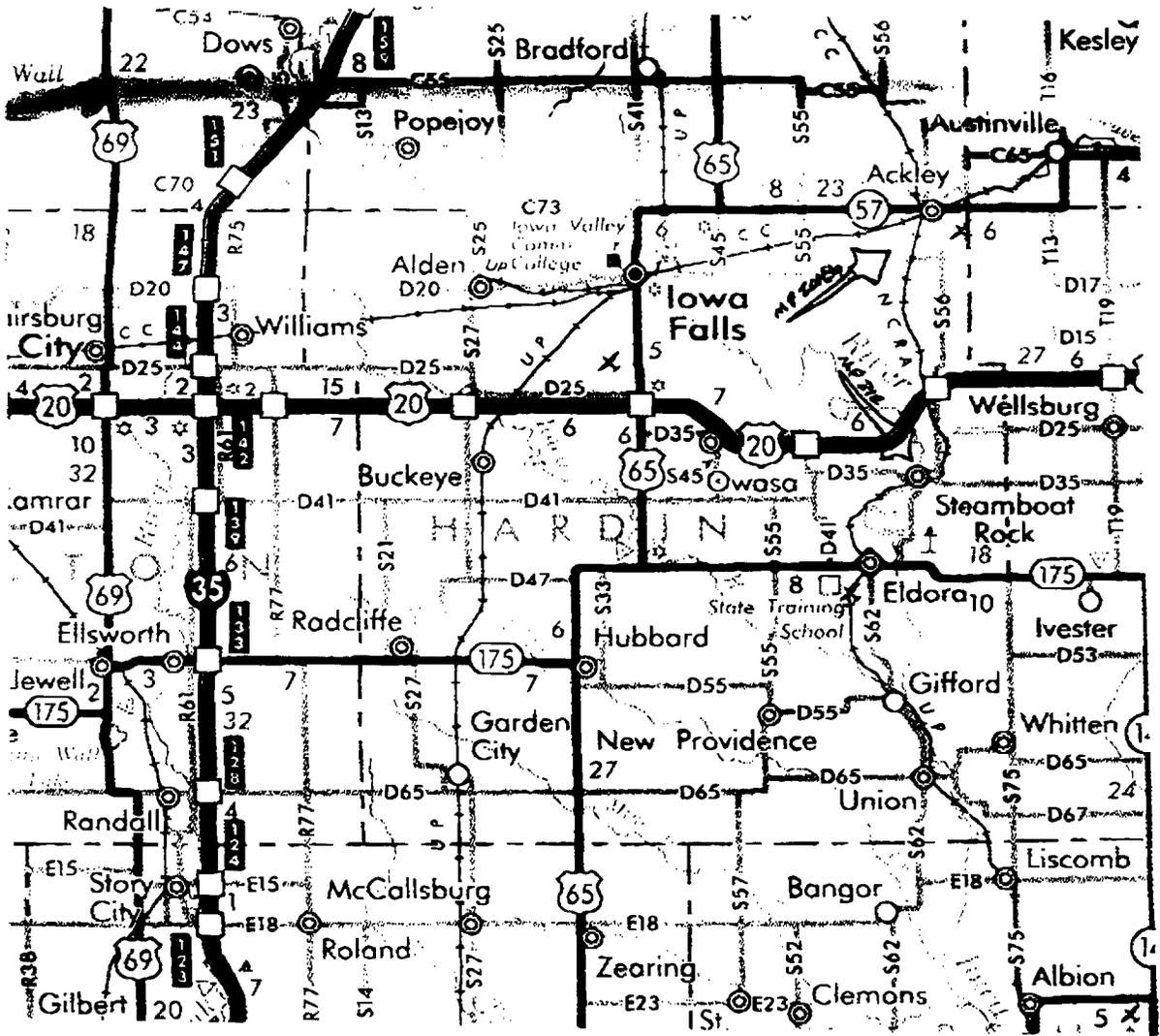
We are forwarding ten copies of this application for STB use as well as ten copies of a map, depicting the location of the right-of-way abandonment being considered.

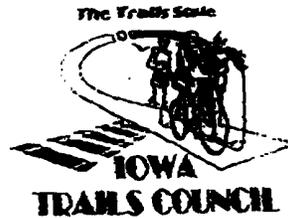
Your thoughtful consideration in this matter, will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom F. Neenan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tom F. Neenan





P O Box 131 Center Point, IA., 52213-0131 319-849-1844
Tom F. Neenan, Executive Director

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Affiliates: American Discovery Trail Society-American Hiking Society-Rails/Trails Conservancy-American Trails

FROM : Tom Neenan ITC

FAX NO. : 3198491844

Apr. 25 2006 05:02PM P5

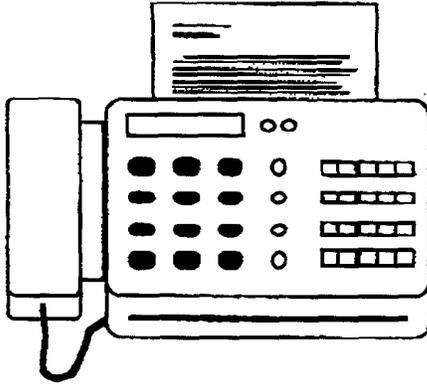
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Sincerely,

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Tom F. Neenan



Fax Transmission

Today's date 04/24/06



To SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

From: Tom F. Neenan, Executive Director
Iowa Trails Council
P. O. Box 131
Center Point, IA, 52213-0131
Tel 319-849-1844
Fax 319-849-1844 (call first)

Subject AB-586 (SUB NO 2X)

No. of sheets: 3, after cover sheet