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Lawrence County

I N D I A N A

an unexpected destination!

Lawrence County Tourism Commission
533 West Main Street Mitchell, IN 47446

Ms. Rachel D. Campbell, Director
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street S. W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Campbell:

This letter relates to the Indiana Rail Road Abandonment Exemption--Martin and Lawrence Counties, Indiana STB Docket No. AB-295 (Sub-No7x).

I am writing to you as a member of the Lawrence County Economic Growth Council to object to the Indiana Railroad's application for abandonment of the above mentioned rail line. Please reject this abandonment exemption on behalf of present and future economic development opportunities for the citizens of Bedford and Lawrence County, Indiana.

There are many considerations in the making of decisions such as discontinuance of service and railroad abandonment. However, the Indiana Railroad did not give us the opportunity to try and help to create business for them by first beginning with a discontinuance of service process. They immediately filed an application for total abandonment.

If the Growth Council as an economic development organization does not have the availability of rail service, businesses looking to locate in our area will mark us off their list before even speaking to our organization. Perhaps, if given time and opportunity, we can help the Indiana Railroad grow their business. By denying their application for abandonment and maybe by working together within the Region and State, we hope we can develop new economic development opportunities. If you allow abandonment to take place at this time, future opportunities for economic growth will be severely handicapped.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David L. Brammaman

Executive Director

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Office of Proceedings

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