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BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. 1043 (Sub-No. 1)

**MONTREAL, MAINE & ATLANTIC RAILWAY, LTD.
DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE AND ABANDONMENT
IN AROOSTOOK AND PENOBSCOT COUNTIES, MAINE**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN MAY 10, 2010, PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE AND ABANDONMENT**

Walter J. Elish, President
welish@APPme.org

Dated: April 13, 2010

**MONTREAL, MAINE & ATLANTIC RAILWAY, LTD.
DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE AND ABANDONMENT
IN AROOSTOOK AND PENOBSBOT COUNTIES, ME
STB Docket No. AB-1043 (Sub-No. 1)**

On February 25, 2010, Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. (MM&A) filed with the Board an application for permission to abandon 233 miles of track in northern Aroostook and Penobscot Counties, Maine. According to a late release posted April 9, 2010, to the Surface Transportation Board website, public comments concerning the proposed abandonment are to be filed no later than April 19, 2010.

The Aroostook Partnership for Progress (APP) opposes this discontinuance and abandonment. Walter J. Elish, President of APP wishes to address the Board for approximately five minutes at the Monday, May 10, 2010, public hearing, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the District Court House, 27 Riverside Drive, Presque Isle, Maine. APP, a non-profit corporation comprised of approximately twenty private sector investors, was established in 2004 for the purpose of attracting new jobs and investment to Aroostook County. This group of business executives focuses its efforts on the retention and attraction of new business to northern Maine. The loss of rail in Aroostook County will have a devastating effect on the economy and our ability to attract manufacturers to the region. Currently, twenty-two businesses, with an estimated 766 jobs, and 960 secondary jobs, are active rail shippers along the line, and discontinued or abandoned rail service will drastically affect others, including area farmers, retail businesses, local government, financial institutions, as well as the entire community.

Walter J. Elish, President
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April 13, 2010

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