



E1-974  
9/3/04

Section of Energy and Environment  
Room 3219,  
Surface Transportation Board,  
Washington, DC 20423

November, 19<sup>th</sup> 2003

***Re: Twin State Railroad Company – Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service- In Caledonia and Essex Counties, Vermont – Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-862***

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my concern and opposition about the plans of the Twin State Railroad, to abandon its rail holdings as referenced in a letter to this office dated November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003. NVDA, as the Regional Planning Commission and the Regional Economic Development Corporation, sees all of the regions rail lines and their operators as essential assets to the regions future development. This specific rail line, while it has been technically embargoed for the last several years, is uniquely located to facilitate economic development within one of the most economically disadvantaged regions in our state. This region cannot afford to lose the potential revitalization represented by the existence of this line. We would support efforts to maintain this line as an active rail corridor and would be happy to work with any and all parties to assist Twin State Railroad in maintaining its operation of these holdings.

Sincerely,

Steven Patterson  
Executive Director, NVDA

CC: David Anderson, Esq.  
David Dill  
Charlie Miller  
Mike Welch  
Town of Concord, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Lunenburg, Board of Selectmen