

October 16, 2003

Office of the Secretary  
Case Control Unit  
STB Finance Docket 34075  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington D.C 20423-0001

STB Finance Docket No. 34075 – Environmental Comments  
*Six County Association of Governments - Construction and  
Operation Exemption - Rail Line between Levan and Salina, Utah*

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to voice my support for the Central Utah Rail Project. I believe it should be built as proposed and that it begins construction as soon as possible. Time is of great value as the sooner it is completed the sooner the value can be realized.

I own a business that currently has to truck our bulk product (salt) to the nearest rail point about 40 miles away. As our product is very freight sensitive, this railroad represents a great way for us to be more competitive, remain in business, and even expand our current business. Having to haul by truck substantially increases our costs and makes our product more expensive during competitive bidding procedures.

We employ about 90 people who are dependent on the efficiency of our operation. Recently, we had to layoff some employees. The railroad will help us be more efficient and help us avoid having to layoff staff to stay competitive and in business in the future.

The route being proposed makes a lot of sense. It avoids population areas, minimizes traffic crossings, avoids farmlands as much as possible, and increases community safety. Please approve this project.

Thanks for your efforts to reach out and help rural Utah communities.

Sincerely,



Rhett M Roberts  
President  
Redmond Minerals Inc.

Cc: Rick Black, HDR Engineering