

# North American Transportation Institute

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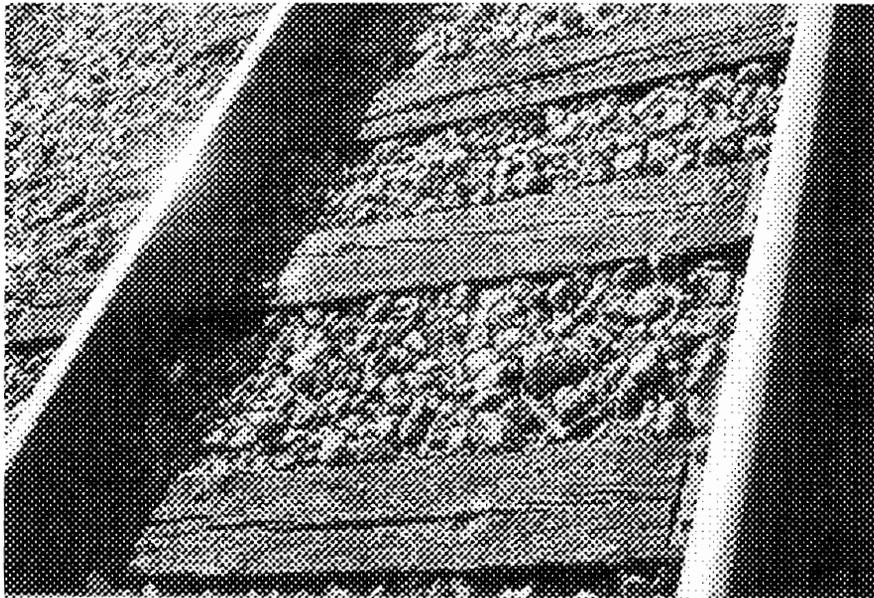
11-4-05

Re: STB Dockets AB-6 (Sub-No. 430X) and AB-1040X

To the Surface Transportation Board of the U.S. Department of Transportation:

The proposal to abandon the high-quality rail line described in the dockets above is driven, not by any advantage to the railroad companies or with grade-crossing safety concerns in mind, but by the absolute determination of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to build four miles of new urban expressway over what is now the Oklahoma City Union Station rail yard, arguably the last rail yard of its kind in the west with all its yard space intact.

Claims that the line has not been used in two years are false. Below is a photo shot today. This is shiny, well-used rail in the OKC Union Station yard.



Why the deception? The Oklahoma City "New I-40 Crosstown" project has been characterized by deception. This is plainly part of what has driven this abandonment process. The application should be denied and this high-quality, historic and irreplaceable rail line left in service.

We will gladly supply eye witness accounts of the regular, recent use of this line over the last two years.

TOM ELMORE, Executive Director  
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