

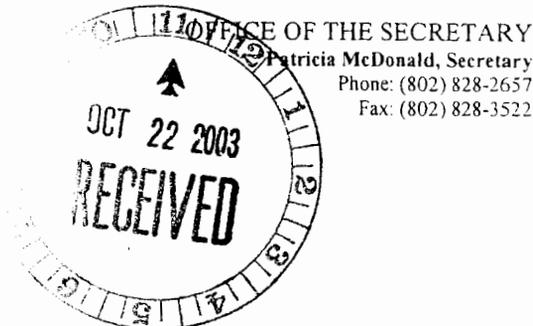
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October 15, 2003

David H. Anderson, Esq.  
288 Littleton Road (Suite 21)  
Westford, MA 01886

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

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This is to acknowledge your October 3, 2003 letter advising that your client, the Twin State Railroad Company, intends to seek regulatory approval from the Surface Transportation Board for abandonment and discontinuance of service over the line of railroad between St. Johnsbury and Lunenburg (Gilman), Vermont.

As you know, the State of Vermont has a long-standing history of acquiring rail corridors threatened with abandonment for continued railroad use, where economically feasible, or for railbanking and interim trail use where railroad operations are not presently viable. We look forward to working with your client and other interested parties to cooperatively assess the present situation and develop a strategy that accommodates the various stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. McDonald  
Secretary of Transportation

cc: Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423-001

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