

E1-7563

May 23, 2008

Ms. Anne Quinlan, Secretary
Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA)
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Joel Langlois
Delta Properties, GRL
401 Hall St SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616.243.9000

RE: Docket No. AB-364 (Sub-No. 14X)

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

I am writing to object to the abandonment of the rail line from Lowell, MI to Greenville, MI.

My company, Delta Properties, recently purchased the former Electrolux warehouse located in Greenville, MI. This 440,000 square foot warehouse was most recently used to warehouse and distribute refrigerators from what was once the single largest refrigerator plant in the world. The building houses an indoor rail line for loading and unloading, and a fairly new rail yard outside of the plant for rail car storage and switching. The City of Greenville improved the roads and infrastructure as part of the new truck route for the benefit of Electrolux in the early 1990's. As you may or may not know, Greenville made national news when Electrolux closed their manufacturing facility in 2006 and moved to a plant in Juarez, Mexico, causing the loss of 2700+ jobs for this community of 8,000.

One of the reasons the property is and was attractive to our company is the rail line and access. The loss of rail greatly diminishes our potential for reuse of the property. We have had several businesses look at the property for relocation and reuse, some based on the rail. Greenville is a community located 20 miles from an interstate highway. It is connected to a state truck route, M-57, which is two lanes, for truck traffic. Rail is one of the equalizing factors for Greenville when competing with larger cities for business and jobs. I am sure you are very cognizant to the value of rail to a community like Greenville.

We ask you to fairly consider the effect of the loss of rail to the community of Greenville and its ability to compete in this difficult economy. As you know, once the rail is removed, it is very difficult to undo it. The local economic development efforts would be greatly handicapped, as they work to move into the new economy.

Since we have only recently purchased the building, we ask that you give us a fair amount of time to bring manufacturers and/or warehouse into the building who would like to use rail.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions for me, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Joel Langlois,
President
joel@delta-space.com