



Woburn City Council
City Hall
10 Common Street
Woburn, MA 01801

El 969
[Signature]

Case Control Unit, Surface Transportation Board
Section on Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20423
Attn: Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball, Environmental Comments, Finance Docket No.34391

August 17, 2004

Re: New England Transrail, LLC
Environmental Assessment, seeking to establish a
Class III rail carrier and construction of a bulk re-load center
At 51 Eames Street, Wilmington, MA 01887

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter concerns New England Transrail's recent filing to the Surface Transportation Board for an exemption to establish a Class III rail carrier and rail re-load center at 53 Eames Street in Wilmington, Massachusetts. We would like to state for the record that we are opposed to New England Transrail's proposal on several grounds.

1. The property at 51 Eames Street has been a major source of contamination for decades. Migration of contaminants to Woburn's watershed (Aberjona) is being monitored. Further investigation, remedial action and review by DEP, EPA and the Town of Wilmington is required to establish whether this property is suitable for redevelopment at this time (and whether the use being proposed is suitable for the site).
2. The Fire and Police Chiefs of both communities need a full proposal with site plans to determine whether these two communities are equipped to handle potential rail or trucking accidents involving containers of harmful commodities.
3. The proposal does not adequately address serious trucking issues raised previously in a letter from the Woburn City Council (June 18, 2003). Responding to our concerns, New England Transrail states in a letter to the Board (June 20th, 2003) that trucks will not use Route 38 in Woburn (a primarily, residential area) to access the interstate highways.

4. They state that this is not a logical trucking route and that appropriate measures will be taken with customers to ensure that this route will not be used. Those measures were not specified in the proposal. Furthermore, in our experience, trucks accessing businesses in that area of Wilmington do use Route 38 in Woburn routinely, over our repeated objections. The volume of heavy trucks involved in this proposed operation would be unbearable for area residents should they traverse Route 38 in Woburn.
5. Noise generated from the proposed site will be a nuisance to residential neighborhoods in North Woburn. The location may be within an Industrial zone, but residential areas are close-by to the southwest.
6. Concern for emissions released daily from trucks entering and leaving the proposed site, construction and operating equipment and locomotive activity.

Given these objections we respectfully ask that the Board delay any action on this filing until the DEP, EPA, and both communities are satisfied that the environmental impact of this proposed rail and reload use is minimal. There are too many serious concerns left unaddressed at present for this proposal to move forward.

Thank you for your attention to our comments.

Sincerely,



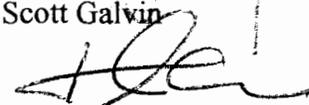
William Booker



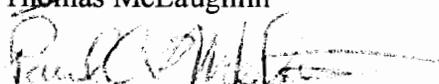
Paul Denato



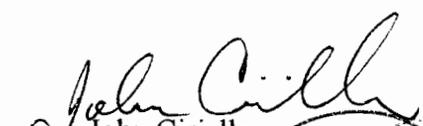
Scott Galvin



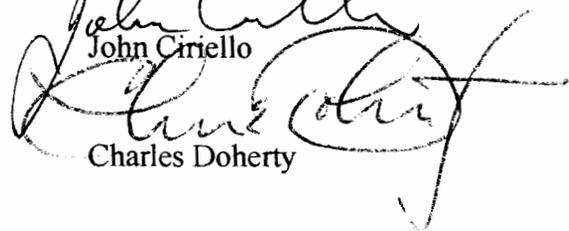
Thomas McLaughlin



Paul Medeiros



John Ciriello

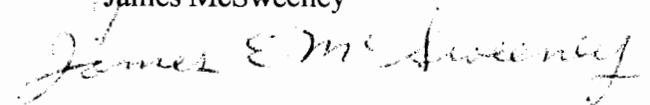


Charles Doherty

Joanna Gonsalves



James McSweeney



James E McSweeney

Cc:

New England Transrail, LLC (843 Red Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666)

The Honorable Edward Kennedy, US Senate
The Honorable John Kerry, US Senate
The Honorable John Tierney, US House of Representatives
The Honorable Edward Markey, US House of Representatives
The Honorable Bruce Tarr, Mass. State Senate
The Honorable Robert Havern, Mass. State Senate
The Honorable James Miceli, Mass. House of Representative
The Honorable Charles Murphy, Mass House of Representative
The Honorable Carol Donovan, Mass House of Representative
The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder
The Wilmington Town Manager, Michael Caira
The Wilmington Board of Selectman
Kathy Barry, President, Woburn-Wilmington Collaborative (14 Powder House Circle, Wilm.)
Mayor John C. Curran