

✓ Gen Ack sent 7/29/04 ✓ To BB ✓ To Comms
§ Lt

July 21, 2004

Paul Kjellander, President
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Re: Support for Railbanking of Union Pacific Industrial Lead
Case No. UPR-R-04-1

Dear Mr. Kjellander:

The North Idaho Centennial Trail Foundation (the "Foundation"), a private non-profit organization dedicated to the stewardship of the North Idaho Centennial Trail and the development of recreational trails in Kootenai County, Idaho, is in favor of public use and railbanking of the Union Pacific Industrial Lead from Milepost 2.25 at Feeley Spur to Milepost 7.50 near Gibbs in Kootenai County, Idaho.

The permanent protection of the Union Pacific right-of-way through railbanking will allow for the future development of an important trail segment that will link the existing Centennial Trail to future proposed trails to the north. This strategy is supported by the City of Coeur d'Alene and Kootenai County, and compliments the work of the Rathdrum Prairie Open Space Project. To this end, the Foundation will file a Public Use Condition and Request for Interim Trail Use and Railbanking to the Surface Transportation Board upon the Union Pacific filing a Petition for Abandonment Exemption.

We appreciate your attention to this matter. The Foundation is excited about the opportunity to work with its government partners to create a trail that will benefit the quality of life of the citizens of and visitors to Kootenai County.

Sincerely yours,



Chris Copstead, Chairman
North Idaho Centennial Trail Foundation

502 N. 20th St.
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83714

✓ Men. Ark
sent 7/27/04 ✓ To BB ✓ To Comm
3 H



CITY OF COEUR D'ALENE

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

CITY HALL - 710 E. MULLAN

P.O. BOX 489

COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO 83816-0489

(208) 769-2348

July 27, 2004

Mr. Paul Kjellander
President
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720-004

RE: Case No. UPR-R-04-1
Union Pacific Railroad's Intent to Abandon the Coeur d'Alene Industrial Lead
from Milepost 2.25 to 7.5 in Kootenai County, Idaho

Dear Commissioner Kjellander:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Coeur d'Alene. The City of Coeur d'Alene has no objection to the abandonment of the above referenced rail line. The abandonment will not adversely affect the area being served and will not impair the access of Idaho shippers to vital goods and markets.

The City of Coeur d'Alene also supports railbanking this right of way for future public use as a trail or for alternative transportation. This corridor is an important connection between the City and the Rathdrum Prairie and should be preserved for future public use.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Michael C. Gridley
City Attorney