



**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



*Victoria F. Sheehan*  
*Commissioner*

*William Cass, P.E.*  
*Assistant Commissioner*

October 25, 2019

RECEIVED

OCT 29 2019

Christopher Gamache, Chief  
Bureau of Trails  
New Hampshire Department of Natural & Cultural Resources  
172 Pembroke Road  
Concord, NH 03301

Andrew Dorsett, Town Manager  
Town of Littleton  
125 Main Street  
Littleton, NH 03561-4018

Re: Surface Transportation Board  
Docket No. AB 1237 (Sub-No. 1X), Abandonment Exemption- Between Littleton, NH  
and Bethlehem, NH  
Notice of Decision – Consummation of Abandonment

To Whom It May Concern,

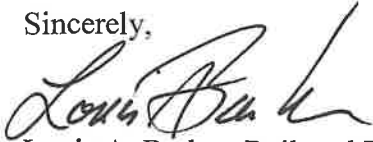
The State of New Hampshire, filed a Notice of Consummation dated 10/24/ 2019, pursuant to a Decision of the Surface Transportation Board to fully abandon a segment of the former Boston & Maine Railroad in the towns of Littleton and Bethlehem, New Hampshire. The Department of Transportation will commence salvage activities on this segment of the rail line and coordinate with the Bureau of Trails.

The Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis has observed that endangered species are not likely to be impacted by the anticipated salvage operation as the salvage operation will be limited to the removal of rail and other track materials, no bridges, culvert or support masonry will be disturbed and there will be no excavation or earthwork within the scope of work for the proposed salvage operation. Additionally the Ammonusuc River and its tributaries should not be affected as work within the railroad corridor is limited to the track alignment. However, per the Surface Transportation Board's Decision on Abandonment, if any federally listed threatened or endangered species are encountered during the abandonment-related salvage activities, then all such work must be immediately halted and the United States

Fish and Wildlife Service shall be consulted for mitigation processes for the specific threat. For your reference, enclosed is a list of endangered and threatened species in NH.

Please refer any questions, comments or recommendations to my attention. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis Barker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Louis A. Barker, Railroad Planner  
Bureau of Rail & Transit

Enc

cc: Office of the Attorney General