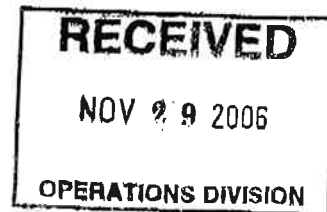


David Ring  
Buffalo Mountain Farm  
Hardwick - Vermont  
P.O. Box 936  
Stowe, VT 05672



November 27, 2006

Trini Brassard  
Vtrans, National Life Bldg  
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001

RE: Comments - Rail Trail Plan

Dear Ms. Brassard:

Enclosed please find my comments regarding the Proposed Management Plan for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.

First, as an adjacent landowner, I have an objection to the proposed use of Lamoille Valley Railroad Company lands which pass through my farm properties. This objection is based upon a Original Deed from Erastus Howard to the Lamoille Valley Railroad Company (LVRRC) which specifically states that the described land - (part of my farm in 1874) that he deeded to the LVRRC was to be "used for railroad purposes only". The first line of the Management Plan specifically states that this land use is proposed as a year-round multi-use recreational path/trail. To the best of my knowledge, and deed research, there has been no other agreement between any previous owners of my farm and any others to allow for any other use other than a railroad over those lands. At this time, I do plan to object to any other uses of this section of land other than as originally agreed upon - that being railroad uses only- which means rails and trains, etc. In addition, there is the item of railroad crossings in the same deed mentioned above that needs to be addressed and crossings replaced for access for farming operations in various sections of the farm lands.

Second, my farm and other leased farm lands have been and are now Certified Organic land, certified by NOFA, for organic crop production. The Proposed Management Plan for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail stipulates that pesticides and herbicides will be used along the corridor. In the past, when the railroad was in operation, the brush was cut by hand or mechanical means, which was acceptable and plausible as it was for railroad use, as per the original deed agreement. The land use for a trail is not acceptable as per the deed and the use of pesticides and herbicides is not acceptable, as this will prevent my use of the surrounding fields due to potential contamination. This is not acceptable as per my farm management activities and long range farming plans.

I look forward to your comments and cooperation as per the rights in the original deeds which are codicils and made part of my farm land rights.

Sincerely,

David Ring

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Ring".