

Helping to move rail and port traffic through New York, New England, the Maritimes, & eastern Québec. A weekly trade newsletter.

ATLANTIC NORTHEAST

RAILS & PORTS

operating railroads + ports, intermodal facilities, and government environment

www.atlanticnortheast.com

To: Maine Legislature, Transportation joint committee

From: Chalmers “Chop” Hardenbergh, former editor *Atlantic Northeast Rails & Ports*

Date; 20 February 2025

RE LD 30 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council Regarding the Rail Line from Portland to Yarmouth

Dear members of the Transportation Committee:

I support LD 30.

While I am always in support of viable rail lines, history of rail in Maine shows that the former St. Lawrence & Atlantic line from Portland to Yarmouth will never return to hosting freight rail.

Please direct MDOT to take any steps necessary to allow bike/ped use of this right of way.

CSX has an alternative rail line already in use between Portland and Yarmouth,

/s/ Chalmers Hardenbergh

Common abbreviations: **BCLR** - Bay Colony RR, **BML** - Belfast & Moosehead Lake RR, **CBNS** - Cape Breton and Central Nova Scotia Ry, **CCCR** - Cape Cod Central RR, **CCRR** - Claremont Concord RR, **CMAQ** - congestion-mitigation or air quality (money from the US federal government for these purposes), **CMQ** - Central Maine & Quebec Ry, **CN** - Canadian National Ry, **CNZR** - Central New England RR, **ConnDOT** - Connecticut Department of Transportation, **CP** - Canadian Pacific Ry, **CSO** - Connecticut Southern RR, **CSRX** - Conway Scenic RR, **CSXT** - CSX Transportation (railroad), **EMRY** - see NBSR, **FHWA** - Federal Highway Admin., **FRA** - Federal Rail Admin., **FRTC** - Fore River Transportation Co., **FTA** - Federal Transit Admin., **GU** - Grafton & Upton RR, **GWI** - Genesee & Wyoming Inc, **HRRR** - Housatonic RR, **MassDOT** - Massachusetts Department of Transportation, **MBCR** - Mass. Bay Commuter RR, **MBRX** - Milford-Bennington RR, **MBTA** - Mass. Bay Transportation Authority, **MC** - Massachusetts Coastal RR, **MCER** - Mass. Central RR, **MDOT** - Maine Department of Transportation, **MERR** - Maine Eastern RR, **MMA** - Montréal, Maine and Atlantic Ry, **MNRY** - see NBSR, **MPO** - Metropolitan Planning Organization, **MTQ** - Québec Ministry of Transport, **NAUG** - Naugatuck RR, **NBDOT** - New Brunswick Department of Transportation, **NBSR** - New Brunswick Southern Ry, parent of **MNRC**, Maine Northern Railway and **EMRY**, Eastern Maine Railway, **NECR** - New England Central RR, **NEGS** - New England Southern RR, **NHCR** - New Hampshire Central RR, **NHDOT** - NH Department of Transportation, **NHN** - New Hampshire Northcoast RR, **NNEPRA** - Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, **NS** - Norfolk Southern Ry, **NSDOT** - Nova Scotia Department of Transportation, **NYA** - New York & Atlantic Ry, **NYNJ** - New York New Jersey Railroad (PANYNJ subsidiary, former Cross-Harbor), **PAR** - Pan Am Railways - parent of Maine Central RR, Portland Terminal RR, Boston & Maine, all leased by **ST** - Springfield Terminal Ry, **PANYNJ** - Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, **PAS** - Pan Am Southern Railway, joint venture of Pan Am and Norfolk Southern, **PVRR** - Pioneer Valley RR, **PW** - Providence & Worcester RR, **QCR** - Quebec Central Ry, **RIDOT** - Rhode Island Department of Transportation, **Seaview**-Seaview Transportation Company, **SLQ** - St. Lawrence & Atlantic Ry (Québec), **SLR** - St. Lawrence & Atlantic RR, **ST** - see PAR, **TIRR** - Turner's Island LLC, **TEU** - twenty-foot equivalent unit (measure of container traffic, equal to a 20x8x8 foot box), **VAOT** - Vermont Agency of Transportation, **VRS** - Vermont Rail System (Green Mt. RR Company **GMRC** + Vermont Ry **VTR** + Clarendon&Pittsford RR **CLP** + Washington County RR **WACR**), **WHRC** - Windsor and Hantsport Ry.
* These railroads are part of the GWI short-line holding company.