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CamTran Update on Inclined Plane Rehabilitation Project

Johnstown, Pa (April 5, 2024) – CamTran Executive Director, Rose M. Lucey-Noll, today provided an update on the Inclined Plane Rehabilitation. Note: The Rehabilitation work is currently 92% complete.

This update follows the pause by CamTran on the Inclined Plane Rehabilitation project based upon the advice of consultants and Industry experts earlier this year.

Conroy Engineering, an independent engineering firm, hired by CamTran continues to investigate the issues found at the Inclined Plane on November 28, of 2023.

The attached information provides an update on the issues that have been identified on and after November 28th.

- 1. Safety Cable Rope.** The safety cable is a two-inch diameter cable made up of multiple core wires each wrapped in many smaller strand wires. The cable is used as part of the back-up safety brake system for the Inclined Plane.

Several broken strands on the safety cable rope were identified. The cause of the breaks was likely the result of construction activities, i.e., during removal of the rope, during storage, or when it was re-installed. It was determined that there are no major safety concerns because of these broken strands.

- 2. Sheave Wheels Rims.**

The sheave wheel is the device that spins on the axel. The rim around the sheave wheel guides the cables. There are eight sheave wheels.

While the ropes were being reviewed for the source of the damage, the experts inspected the rims and raised concerns regarding the hardness of the metal. Metal hardness relates to the longevity of the metal and whether the main haul ropes and safety cable rope could be further damaged moving around the rims with continued use. The longevity question is also especially important because the goal is to have 25+ years before needing to be replaced again.

“There is no one more committed than CamTran to get the Inclined Plane reopened once all the work has been completed in the manner it is expected.” stated CamTran Executive Director Rose M. Lucey-Noll. “And that it is deemed safe to re-open to the public by the required federal and state rail safety oversight agency and state labor and industry agency.”

Questions can be directed to Rose M. Lucey-Noll at (814) 535-5526, Ext. 201.

Attachments: Safety Assessment Timeline Graph
Narrative Timeline of events since pause in work at Inclined Plane
Mandated Testing and Inspection Required for Reopening of Inclined Plane

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