

The City of Waterville, Maine
470 Committee

March 26, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of New England Steam Company and Steam Locomotive 470.

I have been involved with railway preservation and steam locomotives for over 40 years; I have been a Trustee of the Railroad Museum of New England (RMNE) in Thomaston, Conn. since 1986. I am familiar with historic railway equipment preservation, restoration and operation. RMNE operates a 20-mile historic and scenic railroad, Naugatuck Railroad, which is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Railroad Administration and complies with those rules.

Having seen dozens of detailed photographs of Locomotive 470, and having carefully reviewed the inspection reports and condition surveys made by New England Steam Company, I am pleased to state that in my opinion, Locomotive 470 is a good candidate for restoration to operating condition. Steam locomotives in worse condition than 470 have been restored to operating service; plainly put, 470 looks terrible but has "good bones".

New England Steam Company personnel have been developing a rational plan for Locomotive 470, and they bring years of experience with historic railway equipment to this project. Again, plainly put, they have their eyes open and know the restoration of 470 won't be easy, but they do know it is quite possible.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Howard Pincus