

Swedish National Heritage Board
Box 5405
S-114 84 Stockholm
SWEDEN

February 12, 2013



Dear Sirs,

I write today as the President of The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH), the world organization promoting preservation, documentation, research and interpretation of our industrial heritage. In this capacity we advise the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. I write to you today about the plans for demolition of the Forsby-Köping cable way, a significant industrial heritage resource in Sweden.

It has recently been brought to my attention by Swedish members of our organization that plans are underway to demolish this interesting industrial heritage resource. We understand that there is a complex process of heritage listing and protection in your country, involving local, regional and national agents, and appreciate the difficulties of resolving competing interests. However, we hope that you will consider undertaking measures that will protect this industrial transportation system as an element of your cultural heritage.

The Forsby-Köping cable way is one of very few preserved examples of what was formerly a common transport system for industrial production in Sweden and around the world. It has been recognized by TICCIH Sweden and Svenska Industriminnesföreningen in 2003 as "industrial heritage site of the year," and identified in an expert investigation by Niras in 2012 as representing extraordinary heritage values, deserving of preservation and possible proposal for the World Heritage List. The cable way is currently in good condition, largely unchanged since it was built over 70 years ago, and has been run as recently as 2010.

We urge that the National Heritage Board and the relevant local and regional entities delay the permit to demolish this heritage resource until a thorough consideration of alternative preservation options is conducted by appropriate experts. The loss of such a distinctive heritage complex would be a significant blow to the cultural landscape of the region and, indeed, your nation. We hope that you agree that the resource is deserving of the most thorough consideration that your processes allow.

I will be happy to discuss the matter with you and/or any appropriate officials, if you wish. Meanwhile, I hope that you will agree with me about the preservation of this important site

Sincerely,

Patrick Martin

cc: Nordkalk AB, Stockholm
Länsstyrelsen Västmanlands Län, Västerås
Länsstyrelsen Södermanlands Län, Nyköping
Vingåkers kommun, Vingåker
Katrineholms kommun, Katrineholm
Kungsörs kommun, Kungsör
Köpings kommun, Köping
Eskilstuna kommun, Eskilstuna
Tekniska Museet, Stockholm
Kalklinbanans vänner

TICCIH The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage

<http://www.ticcih.org>

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