

September 22, 1998

Brent Nichols
600 E. University Dr #444
Tempe, AZ 85281-2030

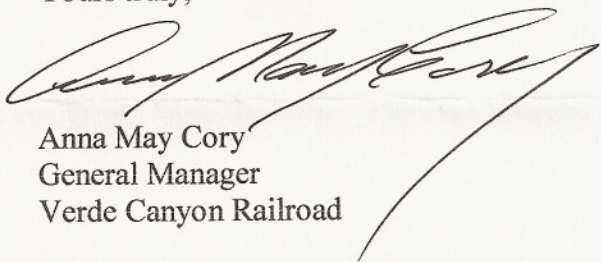
Dear Mr. Nichols:

We appreciate your concern for our very successful business. It is not possible to allow you to engineer the locomotive for many reasons including FRA regulations and guidelines. Perhaps it is presumptuous of you to assume that you could do something that it takes years and training for our engineers to study and apprentice and pass tests in order to become qualified to drive our locomotives.

It would be something like you going to America West Airlines and telling them you needed to demonstrate trust and perform as an adult by flying one of their airplanes while the pilot was not present. You further want your troop, family and friends to ride in the rear for no charge and ask them to pass out peanuts to the rest of the passengers.

We're sorry that we will not be seeing you on October 3rd unless you purchase a ticket and ride as a passenger on our regularly scheduled train ride at 10am or 5pm. Further, we do wish you luck!

Yours truly,



Anna May Cory
General Manager
Verde Canyon Railroad



Verde Canyon Railroad, LC 300 North Broadway Clarkdale, AZ 86324 520-639-0010 Fax 520-639-1653
www.verdecanyonrr.com Email verdecanyonrr@cybertrails.com



September 21, 1998

Mr. Brent Nichols
600 East University Drive
Tempe, AZ 85281-2030

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Thank you for your letter dated September 16, 1998 and received by my office September 21, 1998 regarding your request to operate an Amtrak locomotive.

As much as we would like to honor your request, Federal law dictates otherwise. The Federal Railroad Administration requires Engineers to be fully certified before they can operate a locomotive. In doing so, they must attend extensive training seminars and pass numerous operating rules classes to ensure that we operate safely and efficiently. Also, you must have a "head-end" authorization just to be in the cab of the engine.

We are however receptive to considering any other options that may assist you in earning an Eagle Scout badge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. D. Willwerth".

D. D. Willwerth
Product Director
"Sunset Limited"

DDW/pad

cc: R. L. Williams