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February 5, 2016

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Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
February 5, 2016
Part of
Public Record

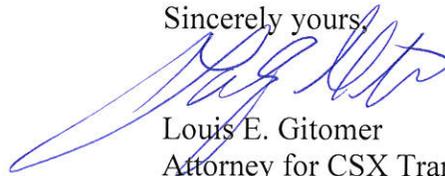
Re: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 746X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Grant County, WV**

Dear Ms. Brown,

CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) is efilng a Request for Expedited Decision.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for CSX Transportation, Inc.

Enclosure

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 746X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.—ABANDONMENT—GRANT COUNTY, WV

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED DECISION

Steven Armbrust, Esq.
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Attorneys for: CSX TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Dated: February 5, 2016

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 746X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.—ABANDONMENT—GRANT COUNTY, WV

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED DECISION

CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) respectfully requests the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”) to expedite the decision in this proceeding so that CSXT can consummate the abandonment on or before March 1, 2016. CSXT is seeking an expedited decision at the request of Virginia Electric and Power Company (“VEPCO”).

CSXT filed a Petition for Exemption with the Board on November 17, 2015 seeking an exemption under 49 U.S.C. §10502, to abandon an approximately 0.66-mile rail line on the Mt. Storm Railroad Track between milepost BUA 15.72 and milepost BUA 16.38, in Grant County, WV (the “Line”), from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. §10903. In 1963, CSXT’s predecessor, the Western Maryland Railway Company, leased from VEPCO approximately 16.38 miles of track and land, including the Line. As the only common carrier operating over the Line, CSXT sought an abandonment exemption to terminate the common carrier obligation to operate the Line, in order to terminate that portion of the Lease so that VEPCO can reconstruct the coal yard that VEPCO will operate, without the common carrier obligation.

The Board provided public notice of the filing. *CSX Transportation, Inc.-Abandonment Exemption-in Grant County, W. Va.*, Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 746X) (served December 7, 2015). No replies to the Petition have been filed. There have no requests for public use or for

trail use/ rail banking.¹ The Office of Environmental Analysis served an Environmental Assessment on January 15, 2016 (the “EA”), that concluded at page 4 “that, as currently proposed, abandonment of the Line will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.” No environmental or historic conditions were recommended. No comments have been filed in response to the EA.

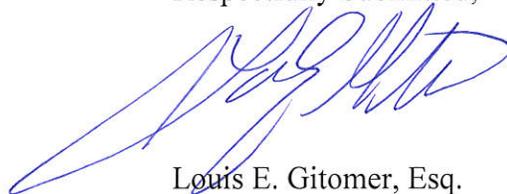
CSXT received the letter dated February 4, 2016, from VEPCO (See Exhibit 1) asking CSXT to seek a decision from the Board so that VEPCO could begin various construction activities on the Line by March 1, 2016. In year three of a five year construction program at its Mt. Storm Power Station, VEPCO will extend the yard limits, by redesigning and upgrading the Mt. Storm rail yard and expanding the amount of track in the yard. VEPCO expects its contactors to begin various construction activities by March 1, 2016.

Pursuant to the December 7, 2015 decision, the Board indicated that a decision would be served by March 4, 2016. No opposition to the abandonment has been filed. No environmental or historic conditions have been recommended. There has been no challenge to the argument made in the Petition that the exemption criteria of 49 U.S.C. §10502 have been met.

¹ CSXT has not received any inquiries concerning an offer of financial assistance. Because VEPCO, the owner of the land and track, intends to use the Line as part of its yard and not for common carrier purposes, CSXT contends that a legitimate offer of financial assistance could not be made for continued common carrier service over the Line.

In order to be able to consummate the abandonment on March 1, 2016 so that VEPCO's contractors can begin construction activities on March 1, 2016, CSXT respectfully requests that the Board expedite this proceeding, serve the decision by February 20, 2016, and make the decision effective on March 1, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Attorneys for: CSX TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Dated: February 5, 2016

**EXHIBIT 1–VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER
COMPANY LETTER**

Dominion Virginia Power
120 Tredegar Street - DC3, Richmond, VA 23219
Web Address: www.dom.com



February 4, 2016

Ms. Jo Ann Burroughs
Manager Network Service
CSX Transportation, Inc.
500 Water Street
HQ Building, 12th Floor
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Dear Ms. Burroughs:

Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO) remains vitally interested in the Surface Transportation Board's review and approval of CSXT's Petition for Exemption for CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") to abandon approximately 0.66-mile rail line on the Mt. Storm Railroad Track between milepost BUA 15.72 and milepost BUA 16.38, in Grant County, WV. Docket Number is AB-55 (Sub-No. 746X).

This year, VEPCO is entering the third year of an extensive five year capital program at our Mt. Storm Power Station. The proposed abandonment is a vital element that supports extension of yard limits, a redesign/upgrade of the Mt. Storm rail yard and expansion of the amount rail trackage at Mt. Storm that will improve the efficiency of rail operations for both CSXT and VEPCO and increase the volume of coal that could be delivered via rail to Mt. Storm.

VEPCO asks CSXT to approach the Surface Transportation Board and respectfully request an expedited approval of CSXT's Petition. VEPCO is currently scheduled to award contracts to construction contractors (including railroad construction contractors) to begin various construction activities by 3/1/16. The expedited approval by the Surface Transportation Board will assure the on time awarding of construction contracts and enable commencement of construction work at Mt. Storm by 3/1/16.

VEPCO appreciates CSXT's support of our Mt. Storm capital program and asks for prompt notification of Surface Transportation Board's reaction to VEPCO's request for expedited approval.

Sincerely,

Virginia Electric and Power Company

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Boyd", is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, there is a small, illegible stamp or mark.

Rick Boyd
Authorized Representative