

FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

March 20, 2015

Via Overnight (Next Business Day) Delivery

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20024

238018

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 23, 2015
Part of
Public Record

Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 189X) –Illinois Central Railroad Company
Abandonment Exemption--In Champaign County, Illinois

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are an original and ten copies of the Verified Notice of Exemption of Illinois Central Railroad Company dated, March 23, 2015, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50. A check for the filing fee of \$3,800.00 is also enclosed.

The original copy of the Environmental/Historic Report (Exhibit D to the Notice) has been provided directly to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance on this matter. Kind regards.

Respectfully submitted,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Attorney for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosures
cc: Ms. Victoria J. Rutson, Room 1106

FEE RECEIVED
March 23, 2015
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FILED
March 23, 2015
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

DOCKET NO AB-43 (SUB-NO. 189X)

**ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50**

Audrey L. Brodrick
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606
312-252-1500

ATTORNEY FOR

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

Dated: March 23, 2015

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

DOCKET NO AB-43 (SUB-NO. 189X)

**ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50**

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") hereby submits this Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, to abandon its line of railroad located in Champaign County, Illinois, beginning at milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois, a distance of approximately 3.2 miles ("the Line").

In accordance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2), IC submits the following information:

General Corporation Information: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1)-(2)

IC is a Class I common carrier by rail which owns and operates approximately 2,550 miles of rail line in six Midwestern and south central states. IC's principal route extends from Chicago, Illinois through Memphis, Tennessee to New Orleans, Louisiana. Secondary main lines reach to Springfield, Peoria and East St. Louis, Illinois; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and Mobile, Alabama. IC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian National Railway Company ("CN"), which operates an approximately 18,000-mile rail system in fifteen U.S. states and eight

provinces in the Dominion of Canada. The Board approved CN's control of IC in Canadian National Railway Company, Grand Trunk Corporation and Grand Trunk Western Railroad Incorporated -- Control -- Illinois Central Corporation, Illinois Central Railroad Company, Chicago, Central & Pacific Railroad Company and Cedar River Railroad Company, Finance Docket No. 33556, Decision No. 37 (STB served May 25, 1999).

The complete name and address of IC is:

Illinois Central Railroad Company
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430-1345

Relief Sought: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(3)

Pursuant to the Board's class exemption for the abandonment of out-of-service rail lines, codified at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, IC intends to abandon its line of railroad between Mileposts 7.8 and 11, a distance of approximately 3.2 miles in Seymour and Bondville, Champaign County, Illinois.

Map: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(4)

A map of the Line to be abandoned is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

IC's Representative: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(7)

IC's representative to whom correspondence regarding this abandonment should be sent is:

Audrey L. Brodrick
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 920
Chicago, IL 60606
312-252-1500

ZIP Codes Traversed: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(8)

The portion of the Line to be abandoned traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 61815, 61822 and 61875.

Qualification for Class Exemption: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b)

Per the certificate and verification attached hereto as Exhibit B, IC certifies that no local revenue traffic has moved over the portion of the Line to be abandoned for at least the last two years, there is no overhead traffic on this trackage that would have to be rerouted over other lines, and no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the portion of the Line to be abandoned (or a state or local governmental entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service on the proposed abandonment is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant during the last two years.

Consummation Date: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)

IC will not consummate the proposed abandonment any earlier than May 12, 2015.

Suitability for Other Public Purposes: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(e)(4)

IC is unaware of any public purpose for which the Line may be suitable.

Labor Protection: 49 C.F.R. 1152.50(d)(2)

The level of labor protection applicable in rail line abandonments is that established in *Oregon Short Line Co — Abandonment — Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

Certificate of Compliance with Notice Requirements: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)

A certificate that the notice of requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152(d)(1) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 have been complied with is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

Environmental and Historic Report: 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8

The original of the Environmental Report and Historic Report, prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8, has been concurrently filed with the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit D.

Respectfully submitted,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 920
Chicago, IL 60606
312-252-1500
ATTORNEY FOR ILLINOIS CENTRAL
RAILROAD COMPANY.

Dated: March 23, 2015

DOCKET NO AB-43 (SUB-NO. 189X)
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
— ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION —
IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CERTIFICATE AND VERIFICATION

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss
COUNTY OF COOK)

Brian Buchanan, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. That no local traffic has moved over the line of Illinois Central Railroad Company. ("IC") from milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois to milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois, located in Champaign County, Illinois, a distance of approximately 3.2 miles for at least two years, and that there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted over other lines; and

2. That no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the subject line (or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line is either pending with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the last two years; and

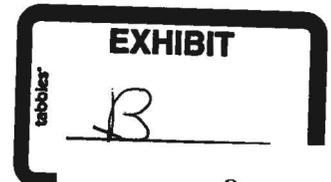
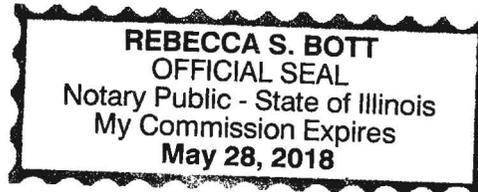
3. That the signatory has read the foregoing Notice of Exemption, knows the facts therein asserted, and that the same are true as stated.

Dated: March 13, 2015

Brian Buchanan
Name: Brian Buchanan
Illinois Central Railroad Company

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 13 day of March, 2015.

Rebecca A. Bott
Notary Public



CERTIFICATE

I, Audrey L. Brodrick, an attorney for Illinois Central Railroad Company, hereby certify that, for the proceeding before the Surface Transportation Board known as Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 189X), Illinois Central Railroad Company. – Abandonment Exemption – in Champaign County, Illinois:

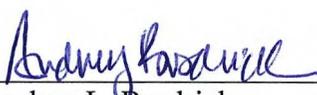
(1) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) have been complied with, to wit: On March 6, 2015, written notice was mailed to the (a) United States Department of Defense, MSDDC-TEA, Attn: Railroads for National Defense; (b) U.S. Department of Agriculture, Chief of the Forest Service; (c) National Center for Recreation and Conservation, National Park Service; and (d) Illinois Department of Transportation, Department of Public and Intermodal Transportation (copies of which are attached hereto as Attachments 1-4).

(2) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 have been complied with, to wit: on February 23, 2015, the Environmental and Historic Report for this proceeding, of which the original report has been concurrently filed with the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis, and the accompanying transmittal letters in the form set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 (a sample of which is attached hereto as Attachment 5) were served by first class mail, postage prepaid, on the parties listed on Attachment 6, which list includes the state historic preservation officer, as required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b) and § 1105.11.

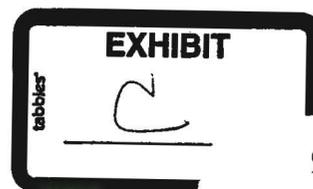
(3) A newspaper notice was published on February 10, 2015 in the *News Gazette*, a newspaper of general circulation in Champaign County, Illinois. The notice alerted the public to the proposed abandonment, to possible reuse alternatives, and to procedures for participating in the STB proceeding. Copies of the notice and Affidavit of Publication are attached to this certificate as Attachment 7.

(4) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. 1105.8 have been complied with.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2015.



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company



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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

March 6, 2015

Railroads For National Defense Program
Military Surface Deployment & Distribution Command
Transportation Engineering Agency
1 Soldier Way, Bldg. 1900W
Scott AFB, IL 62225- 5006

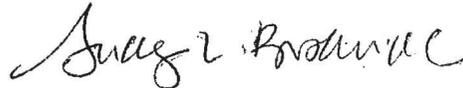
Re: Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) –Illinois Central Railroad Company-
Notice of Exemption for Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville,
Champaign County, Illinois

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall, on or after March 16 2015, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois (“the Line”). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. Such Line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 61815, 61822 and 61875.

The exemption procedures set forth in § 1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over this line for at least two years and there is no overhead traffic that would have to be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line **does not** contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

March 6, 2015

Mr. Tom Tidwell
Chief of the Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250-0003

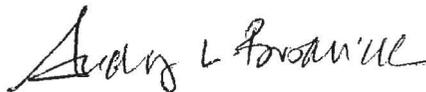
Re: Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) –Illinois Central Railroad Company-
Notice of Exemption for Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville,
Champaign County, Illinois

Dear Mr. Tidwell:

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Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodric@fletcher-sippel.com

March 6, 2015

National Park Service
Attention: Charlie Stockman
Org. 2220
1201 I (Eye) Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) –Illinois Central Railroad Company-
Notice of Exemption for Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville,
Champaign County, Illinois

Dear Mr. Stockman:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall, on or after March 16 2015, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois (“the Line”). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. Such Line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Codes Codes 61815, 61822 and 61875.

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Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
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abrodick@fletcher-sippel.com

March 6, 2015

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation
2300 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62764

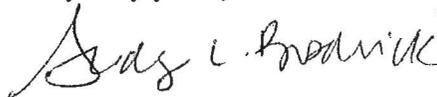
Re: Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) –Illinois Central Railroad Company-
Notice of Exemption for Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville,
Champaign County, Illinois

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall, on or after March 16 2015, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois (“the Line”). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. Such Line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Codes Codes 61815, 61822 and 61875.

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Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

February 23, 2015

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507

Re: **Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 189X)**
Illinois Central Railroad Company – Abandonment
Exemption – Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

On or after March 17, 2015, Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board a notice of exemption for the abandonment of IC'S railroad line extending from MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois, a distance of approximately 3.2 miles. Your review of and comments on this project were previously requested by letter dated November 21, 2014.

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(b) and 1105.11, we are providing for your information the enclosed Environmental/Historic Report which will accompany the notice of exemption and which describes the proposed action and any expected environmental or historic effects. The Report also includes a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the Board's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Office of Environmental Analysis at the following address:

Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1106
Washington, DC 20423-0001
(202) 245-0295

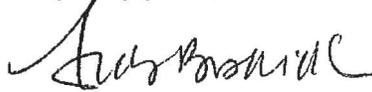
Your comments should reference Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 189X) and, if written, should include a copy to the undersigned. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to the Office of Environmental Analysis would be appreciated within three weeks.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
February 23, 2015
Page 2

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, you should feel free to contact me directly at 312-252-1518. Thank you for your assistance on this matter. Kind regards.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

Environmental and Historic Service List

Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) ICRR – Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois – Champaign County

State Clearing House (or equivalent)

Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: (217) 782-0244

State Environmental Protection Agency

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
PO Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
Phone: (217) 782-3397
(Headquarters)

State Coastal Zone Management

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Management Program Office
160 N. LaSalle Street
Suite S-703
Chicago, IL 60601

Head of Each County (Champaign County Board Office)

Alan Kurtz, County Board Chair
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61802-4581
Phone: (217) 384-3776

Regional EPA Office

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Phone: (312) 353-2000

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3
5600 American Boulevard West
Suite 990
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458
Phone: (612) 713-5360

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (St. Louis District in the Mississippi Valley Division)

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, St. Louis District

1222 Spruce Street

St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Phone: (314) 331-8000

National Park Service

National Park Service, Midwest Region

Patty Trap, Acting Regional Director

601 Riverfront Drive

Omaha, NE 68102-4226

Phone: (402) 661-1736

U.S. Soil Conservation Service – National Resource Conservation Service

National Resources Conservation Service - USDA

Illinois State Office

2118 W. Park Court

Champaign, IL 61821

Phone: (217) 353-6600

National Geodetic Survey

National Geodetic Survey Information Services

SSMC-3, #9202

1315 East-West Highway

Silver Springs, Maryland 20910-3282

Attention: Simon Monroe

Simon.Monroe@noaa.gov

State Historical Agency

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza

Springfield, IL 62701-1507

Phone: (217) 785-7930

State Department of Transportation

Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation

2300 S. Dirksen Parkway

Springfield, IL 62764

Phone: (217) 782-7820

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB- 43 (SUB NO. 189X)

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORIC REPORT

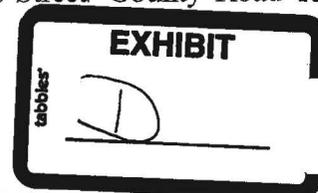
Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") submits this Environmental/Historic Report in compliance with the reporting requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8. Supporting correspondence is attached. It is the conclusion of this Report that the proposed abandonment, if implemented, will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT - 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)

1. Proposed Action and Alternatives. IC seeks to abandon 3.2 miles of its railroad line in Champaign County, Illinois, beginning at milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois, ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended at milepost 11. A map showing the location of the Line and surrounding area is attached hereto as Appendix A.

After receiving authority to abandon, IC intends to salvage the rails, ties, and other track material from the Line. The railbed and subgrade of the Line will remain in place and will not be disturbed. There have been no rail shipments of any kind on the Line for over two years and IC foresees no reasonable possibility for the development of new rail traffic.

There are currently four public crossings located on the Line. The public crossings are located at County Road 400 East (milepost 8.3), County Road 300 East (milepost 9.3), Main Street/County Road 6 (milepost 10.3), and Front Street/ County Road 1550 North



(milepost 10.95). With the exception of Main Street/County Road 6, which is equipped with automatic flashing light signals, the public crossings on the Line are equipped with crossbucks only. In addition to the public crossings identified herein, there are also four private crossings on the Line. Abandonment will allow the permanent closure of all public and private crossings on the Line.

There is one trestle on the Line located at about milepost 8.2 that was built in approximately 1955. The Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) has been notified of the proposed abandonment and has been provided information with respect to the trestle on the Line. The SHPO has concluded that the trestle is not historic and accordingly no historic properties will be affected by the proposed abandonment. See Appendix B.

No alternatives to the proposed abandonment have been considered.

IC has solicited comments from the Champaign County Board and to date IC has received no comments in response. See Appendix C.

2. Transportation System. IC does not anticipate that existing regional or local transportation systems or patterns will be affected by the proposed abandonment as there has been no rail service on the Line for over two years. Accordingly, no traffic will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed abandonment. There is no overhead traffic on the Line, and no passenger trains are operated over the Line either. IC does not anticipate that existing regional or local transportation systems or patterns will be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment since there has been no service over the Line in over two years. IC has contacted and requested comments from the Illinois Department of Transportation. See Appendix D attached hereto. To date IC has received no comments.

3. Land Use.

(i) IC does not foresee any inconsistency with regional and/or local land use plans. IC has contacted and requested comments from the NOAA/National Geodetic Survey. The National Geodetic Survey has commented that there are no geodetic survey markers on the Line or in the area of the proposed abandonment and accordingly no marks will be disturbed. See Appendix E.

(ii) IC does not believe that the proposed abandonment of the Line will affect any prime or unique agricultural land. IC has contacted and requested comments from the Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS") of the United States Department of Agriculture. The NRCS has commented on the proposed abandonment and concluded that it will have no impact on prime or important farmlands. See correspondence attached herein as Appendix F.

(iii) This track does not appear to be within a designated Coastal Zone Management Area and, accordingly, the proposed abandonment will not affect any land or water uses in such an area nor will it result in any coastal impacts. IC has contacted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as well as the Illinois State Coastal Management Program to determine whether the proposed abandonment is consistent with applicable federal, state and local water quality standards. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix G, H and I, respectively. IC has received no comments to date from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The Illinois State Coastal Management Program commented that the proposed abandonment falls outside the boundaries of the Illinois Coastal Management Program and therefore does not require a Federal Consistency Determination. See Appendix I.

Rail and other salvageable materials will be removed from the Line subsequent to abandonment. IC will follow all rules, regulations and best practices for the removal of such materials. The railbed will remain in place, and no re-grading will be done as part of the removal of the track and other salvageable materials.

(iv) IC does not believe that the right-of-way of the Line would be suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905.

4. Energy.

(i) The proposed abandonment will not have any effect on the transportation of energy resources. No energy resource commodities move on the Line, and IC foresees little or no possibility that such on-line traffic would develop in the future.

(ii) The movement and/or recovery of recyclable commodities will not be adversely affected by this abandonment. No recyclable commodities move over the Line, and IC foresees little possibility that any on-line recyclable commodity traffic would develop in the future.

(iii) Abandonment will not result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency. There is no freight traffic on the Line, and thus, there will be no changes in existing transportation patterns or energy usage as a result of the proposed abandonment.

(iv) Not applicable. Abandonment of the Line will not cause the diversion of more than 1,000 rail carloads per year or an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year to motor carriers.

5. Air.

(i) Not applicable. Abandonment will not result in (A) a minimum increase in rail traffic of 100% or eight trains per day on any segment of rail line, (B) an increase

in rail yard activity of at least 100%, or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles per day on any road segment.

(ii) Not applicable. Champaign County is not a class I or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act. In any event, abandonment of the Line will not result in traffic increases which exceed the thresholds specified in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)(ii)(A), (B) or (C).

(iii) Not applicable. No ozone depleting materials are transported over the Line, and no such shipments would be diverted as a result of this abandonment.

IC has contacted and requested comments from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agencies. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendices G and H, respectively. To date, no comments have been received.

6. Noise. Not applicable. As indicated above, none of the thresholds identified in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)(i) will be exceeded as a result of the abandonment.

7. Safety.

(i) The proposed action will have no adverse effect upon public health or safety. All salvage activities will comply with all applicable rules and regulations.

(ii) Not applicable. No hazardous materials are transported on the Line, and in any event no such shipments would be diverted as a result of abandonment. Accordingly, the proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of hazardous materials.

(iii) There are no known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way of the Line.

8. Biological Resources.

(i) The Line is located in a rural area and runs through the towns of Seymour and Bondville, Illinois. After abandonment, the rail, ties and other track material will be salvaged and the railbed will remain in place. IC thus does not believe that any critical habitat will be destroyed, altered or affected as a result of the proposed abandonment, or that any endangered or threatened species present in the area would be adversely affected. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has also been contacted and has requested that IC consult the Fish & Wildlife's web-site to make a determination as to whether any species or critical habitats will be affected by the proposed abandonment. See correspondence attached as Appendix J. IC has reviewed the materials provided from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to make this determination and has concluded that the proposed abandonment will have no consequence on any of the identified critical habitats or species. See Appendix J.

IC also has requested comments from the U.S. Soil Conservation Service / National Resource Conservation Service. The National Resource Conservation Service has responded that the proposed abandonment will not have any impact on prime or important farmlands. See correspondence attached as Appendix F.

(ii) The Line does not pass through or adjacent to any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges or any national or state parks or forests and, accordingly, none will be adversely affected. IC has contacted and requested comments from the National Park Service, as set forth in Appendix K. IC has received no comments from the National Park Service to date.

9. Water. Any water quality effects of the proposed abandonment should be minimal, as the railbed and grade of the Line will not be altered and salvage activities will be conducted within the existing right-of-way. The single trestle along the Line will remain

structurally in place. IC does not anticipate discharge of any materials into navigable waters that would require permits under Sections 402 and 404 of the Clean Water Act. To IC's knowledge, there are no wetlands located in or along the right-of-way of the Line, and IC is unaware of any 100-year flood plains that would be affected by abandonment.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been contacted, and to date, has not responded. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix L. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has also been contacted and has requested that IC consult the Fish & Wildlife's web-site to make a determination as to whether certain species or critical habitats will be affected by the proposed abandonment. See correspondence attached as Appendix J. IC has reviewed the materials provided from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to make this determination and has concluded that the proposed abandonment will have no consequence on any of the identified critical habitats or species. See Appendix J.

Information on the proposed abandonment also has been provided to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. See correspondence attached as Appendices G and H, respectively. No responses have been received to date from either agency.

HISTORIC REPORT - 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)

1. Map. A map of the IC Line is attached hereto as Appendix A.
2. Description of Line. IC seeks to abandon 3.2 miles of its railroad line in Champaign County, Illinois, beginning at milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois. The entirety of the Line is in Champaign, County, Illinois. The area around surrounding the right of way is a flat and rural. The width of the right-of-way on the Line is generally 100 feet, with the exception the portion of the Line that runs through the

town of Seymour, at approximately milepost 9.95 – approximately milepost 10.55, where the at which point the width of the right of way varies, but is generally approximately 60 feet wide.

3. Photographs. Photographs of the trestle on the Line which is more than fifty years old has been provided to the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office. See Appendix B attached hereto.

4. Information on Structures. Information regarding the trestle on the Line is included with the photograph provided to the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office. See Appendix B.

5. History of Operations. Historically, the Line has been used for general freight traffic. In 1984, Illinois Central Gulf Railroad (predecessor to IC) abandoned its line of railroad between milepost 11 in Seymour to milepost 15, northeast of White Heath, Illinois, under the two year out of service exemption. See AB 43 (Sub No. -112X)(STB Served April 25, 1984). The last shipment on the Line was made in 2011. Since then, there have been no rail shipments of any kind on the Line, and no reasonable possibility for the development of new rail traffic exists.

6. Engineering Documents. IC will provide copies of any documents in its possession upon request.

7. Historic Criteria. IC does not believe the trestles or structures on the Line meet the criteria of listing on the National Register of Historic Places under 36 C.F.R. § 60.4 and the Illinois SHPO has responded that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed abandonment. See Appendix B.

8. Ground Disturbances. IC is unaware of any environmental conditions that might affect the archaeological recovery of resources. Access to the Line is good.

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

DOCKET NO. AB-43 (SUB-NO. 189X)

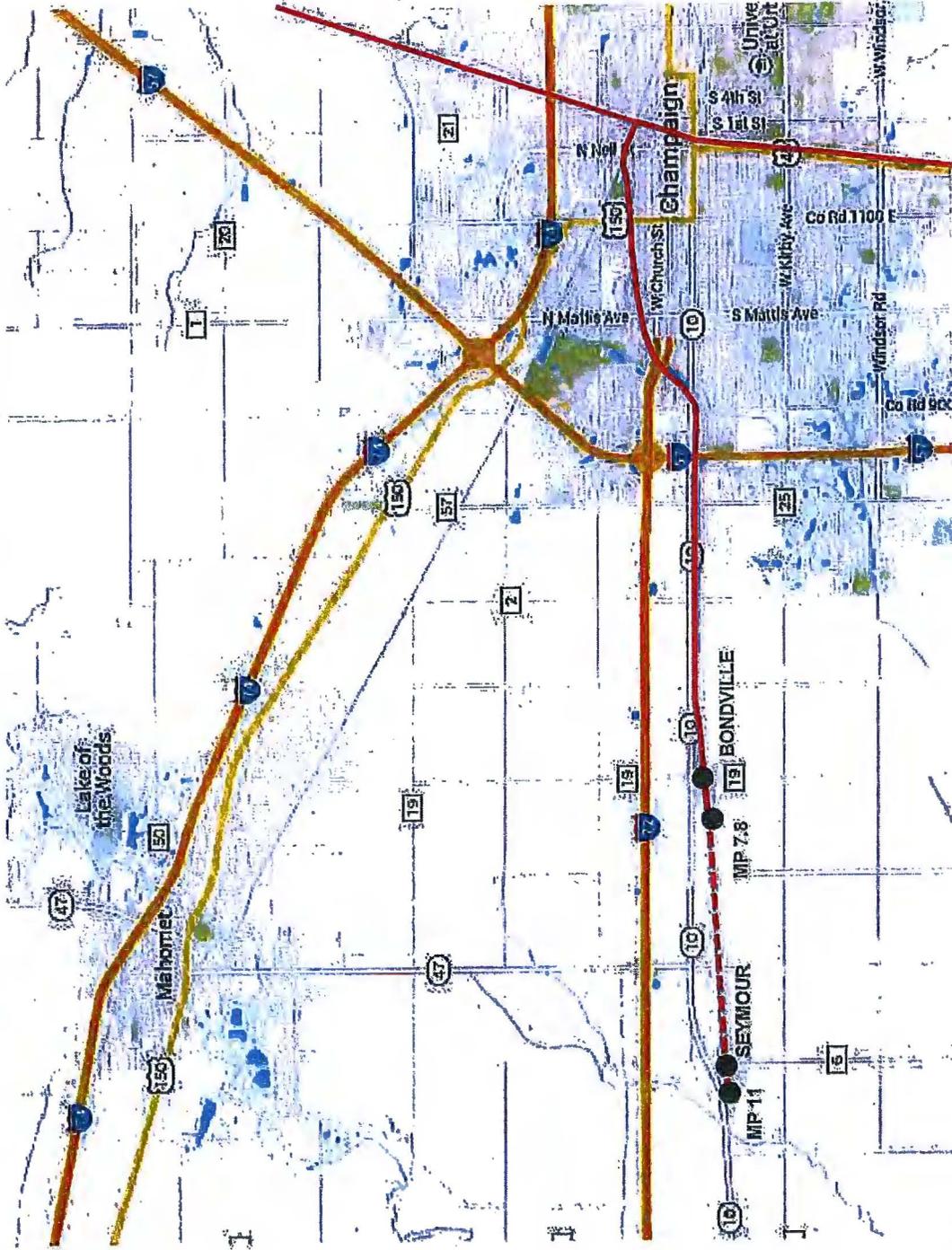
**ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY –
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**APPENDICES TO
ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORICAL REPORT**

Appendix

Map showing Line location	A
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Notice and Response Letters	B
Champaign County Board Notice Letter	C
Illinois Department of Transportation Notice Letter	D
NOAA/National Geodetic Survey Notice and Response Letters	E
U.S.D.E.A, Natural Resources Conservation Service Notice and Response Letters.....	F
U.S. E.P.A Notice Letter.....	G
Illinois E.P.A. Notice Letter	H
Illinois State Coastal Management Program Notice and Response Letter	I
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Notice and Response Letters	J
National Park Service Notice Letter	K
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Notice Letter	L
Certificate of Compliance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105	M

Bondville – Seymour, IL



FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

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www.fletcher-sippel.com

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701-1507

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

1. Water quality;
2. Designated wetlands;
3. 100-year old flood plains;
4. Endangered or threatened species;
5. Critical habitats;
6. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;
7. National or state parks or forests;
8. Coastal zone management;
9. Soil and natural resource conservations;
10. Agricultural land;
11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

EXHIBIT

B

FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

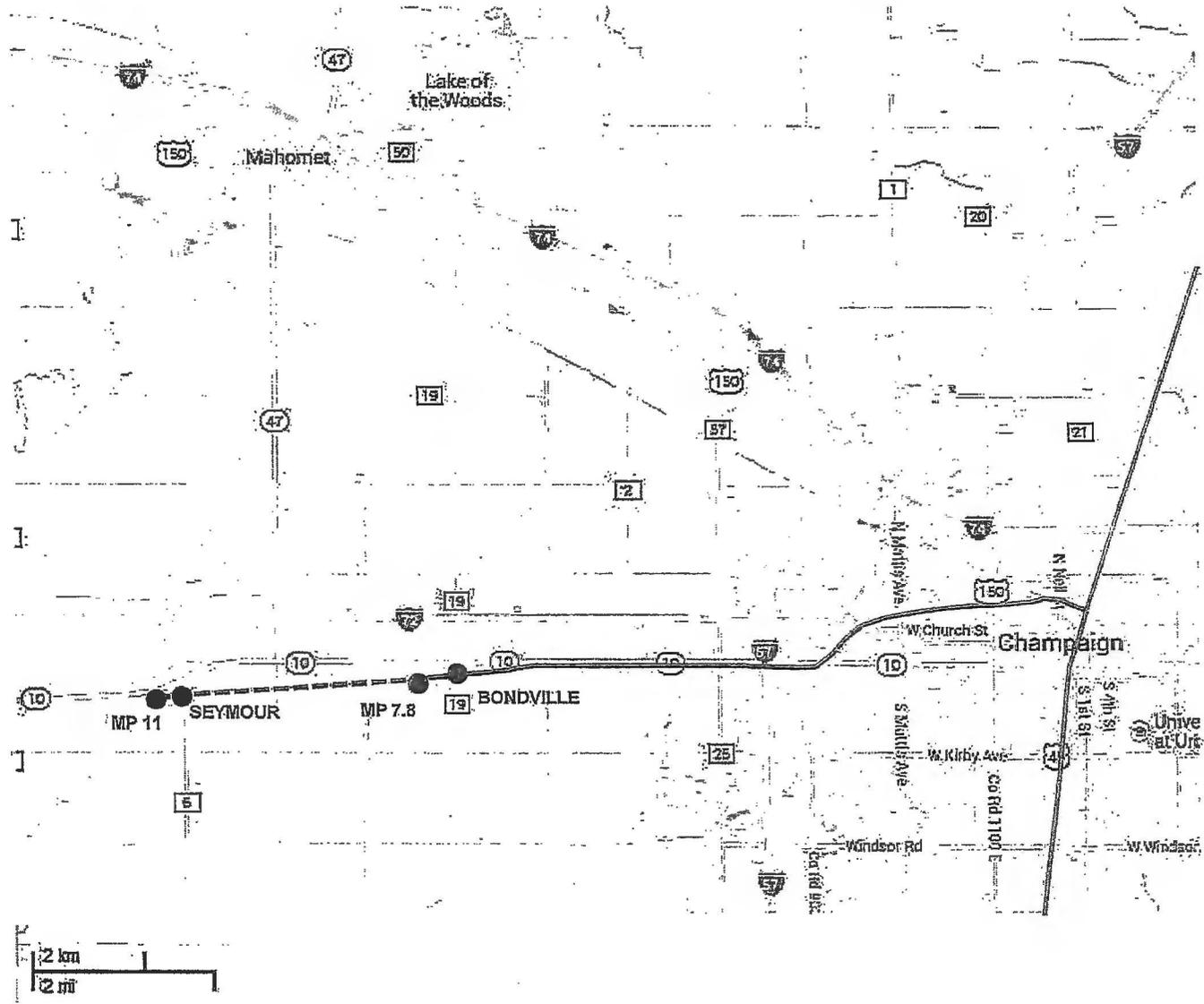
Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

Bondville – Seymour, IL



FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodick@fletcher-sippel.com

January 6, 2015

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701-1507
Attention: Anne E. Haaker
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Ms. Haaker:

Per my earlier correspondence, I represent Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") in relation to its abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line between Bondville, Illinois, starting at MP 7.8 and Seymour, Illinois, ending at MP 11 in Champaign County, Illinois (the "Line"). Upon investigation, it has been determined that there is one trestle located on the Line at about Milepost 8.2. For your reference I have enclosed a picture of the trestle with this letter. The trestle was built in 1955.

If you would like any further information, please let me know.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure





FAX (217) 524-7525

Champaign County
Bondville to Seymour
Railway Abandonment, Illinois Central Railroad Company
Between Milepost 7.8 in Bondville to Milepost 11 in Seymour
STB-AB 43 (Sub No. 189X)
IHPA Log #014120214

December 18, 2014

Audrey Brodrick
Fletcher and Sippel LLC
29 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 920
Chicago, IL 60606-2832

Dear Ms. Brodrick:

We have reviewed the documentation submitted for the referenced project in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This clearance remains in effect for two years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440).

If you have any further questions, please contact me at 217/785-5027.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Haaker
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodric@fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

Alan Kurtz, County Board Chair
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61802-4581

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company --
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Mr. Kurtz:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

1. Water quality;
2. Designated wetlands;
3. 100-year old flood plains;
4. Endangered or threatened species;
5. Critical habitats;
6. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;
7. National or state parks or forests;
8. Coastal zone management;
9. Soil and natural resource conservations;
10. Agricultural land;
11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

EXHIBIT

C

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FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

Mr. Alan Kurtz
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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Suite 920
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Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation
2300 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62764

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company (“IC”) is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois (“the Line”). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

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10. Agricultural land;
11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.



FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

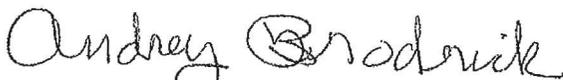
Illinois Department of Transportation
November 21, 2014
Page 2

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In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

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(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

National Geodetic Survey Information Services
SSMC-3, #9202
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910-3282
Attention: Simon Monroe
Simon.Monroe@noaa.gov

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Mr. Monroe:

Illinois Central Railroad Company (“IC”) is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois (“the Line”). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

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FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

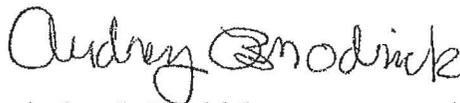
National Geodetic Survey Information Services
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

From: Audrey Brodrick
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2014 12:46 PM
To: Deborah Guzman
Subject: FW: NGS Response, STB Docket AB-43 (SUB NO. 189X)

For file.

-----Original Message-----

From: Simon Monroe [mailto:simon.monroe@noaa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2014 12:14 PM
To: Audrey Brodrick
Cc: Surface Transportation Board; Lucy Hall; Simon Monroe
Subject: NGS Response, STB Docket AB-43 (SUB NO. 189X)

Thank you for sharing your railroad abandonment environmental report for SEYMOUR, Champaign County, ILLINOIS.

Approximately 00 geodetic survey marks may be located in the area described. These marks may or may not be disturbed.

If marks will be disturbed by the abandonment, [THE RAILROAD] shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb, or destroy any geodetic station marks are described on the attached file. Additional advice is provided at <http://geodesy.noaa.gov/marks/railroads/>

|---|-----|
-|-----|-----|-----|-----|

No Stations Found.

FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodick@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

National Resources Conservation Service-USDA
Illinois State Office
2118 W. Park Court
Champaign, IL 61821

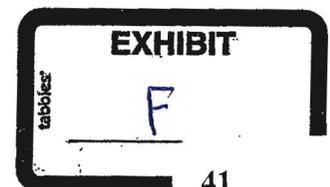
Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company --
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

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FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

National Resources Conservation Service-USDA
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure



December 1, 2014

Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company
29 Wacker Drive, Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

RE: Docket AB (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company-Proposed Abandonment
in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-Champaign County

Dear Ms. Brodrick:

We have reviewed the proposed project as requested.

The proposed track abandonment would be confined to an existing rail corridor. It will have no impact on prime or important farmlands. NRCS does not have any further comment at this time.

Sincerely,

IVAN N. DOZIER
State Conservationist

cc:

Angela Biggs, ASTC, USDA-NRCS, 6021 Development Drive, Suite 3, Charleston, IL 61920
Ronald Collman SSS, USDA-NRCS, 2118 West Park Court, Champaign, IL 61821
Kerry Goodrich, SRC, USDA-NRCS, 2118 West Park Court, Champaign, IL 61821
Wade Conn, Acting SRC, USDA-NRCS, 2118 West Park Court, Champaign, IL 61821

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

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11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

EXHIBIT

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FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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29 North Wacker Drive
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(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
PO Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

1. Water quality;
2. Designated wetlands;
3. 100-year old flood plains;
4. Endangered or threatened species;
5. Critical habitats;
6. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;
7. National or state parks or forests;
8. Coastal zone management;
9. Soil and natural resource conservations;
10. Agricultural land;
11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.



FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

State Coastal Zone Management
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Management Program Office
160 N. LaSalle Street
Suite S-703
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

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12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

State Coastal Zone Management
November 21, 2014
Page 2

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In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure



Coastal Management Program

160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite S-700 • Chicago, Illinois 60601 • <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp>

December 3, 2014

Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 920
Chicago, IL 60606-2832

RE: Illinois Coastal Management Program, Federal Consistency Determination, Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X)

Dear Ms. Brodrick:

According to your letter dated November 21, 2014 Illinois Central Railroad Company is proposing to abandon 3.2 miles of rail line between milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois, and milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois. We have reviewed your request and have determined that the proposed work falls outside the boundaries of the Illinois Coastal Management Program (ICMP) and therefore, will not require a Federal Consistency Determination.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (312) 793-5947 or james.casey@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

James P. Casey
ICMP Federal Consistency Coordinator
IFC2014024

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

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abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3
5600 American Boulevard West
Suite 990
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

1. Water quality;
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4. Endangered or threatened species;
5. Critical habitats;
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8. Coastal zone management;
9. Soil and natural resource conservations;
10. Agricultural land;
11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3

November 21, 2014

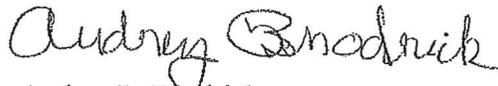
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

From: Audrey Brodrick
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2014 8:11 AM
To: Deborah Guzman
Subject: Fwd: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) IL Cent. RR Co. - Proposed Abandonment - Seymour to Bondville, IL

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Woeber, Heidi" <heidi_woeber@fws.gov>
Date: December 15, 2014 at 7:31:20 AM CST
To: Audrey Brodrick <abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com>
Subject: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) IL Cent. RR Co. - Proposed Abandonment - Seymour to Bondville, IL

Ms. Brodrick:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois. The entire abandonment will take place in Champaign County, Illinois. We are providing information concerning threatened and endangered species. We have the following comments.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by Federal agencies not jeopardize federally threatened or endangered species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. To fulfill this mandate, Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative) must consult with the Service if they determine their project "may affect" listed species or critical habitat.

In order for you to evaluate the potential effects of your project on federally listed species, you can download a list of species listed for Champaign County from the Service's Region 3 Technical Assistance website at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/sppranges/index.html>. Habitat descriptions for these species can also be found on our website. You may use these descriptions to help you determine if there is suitable habitat within your project area. If no suitable habitat exists within your project area or its area of impact, and no species or critical habitat is present, it is appropriate to determine the project will have "no effect" on listed species. If you determine the action will have "no effect" on listed species or critical habitat, concurrence with that

determination from the Service is not required. Concurrence for **no effect** determinations will not be provided by the Rock Island Ecological Services Field Office for projects in Iowa or Illinois due to reductions in staff. We recommend you maintain a written record of why a “no effect” finding is warranted and include it in your administrative record. An example "no effect" memo can be found on our website at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/s7process/letters.html>.

If suitable habitat is found in the area of your project, the appropriate determination is that the project “may affect” listed species. In some instances surveys may be recommended to help make this determination. Additional information on how to make accurate effect determinations and how to document your determination can be found on our website at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/s7process/step1.html>.

Additionally, the Service removed bald eagles from protection under the ESA on August 8, 2007. However, they remain protected today under the MBTA and the Eagle Act. The Eagle Act prohibits take which is defined as, “pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, destroy, molest, or disturb” (50 CFR 22.3). Disturb is defined in regulations as, “to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle, 2) decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or 3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior.”

The Corps of Engineers is the Federal agency responsible for wetland regulation, and we recommend that you contact them for assistance in delineating the wetland types and acreage within the project boundary. Priority consideration should be given to avoid impacts to these wetland areas. Any future activities in the study area that would alter these wetlands may require a Section 404 permit. Unavoidable impacts will require a mitigation plan to compensate for any losses of wetland functions and values. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61201, should be contacted for information about the permit process.

These comments provide technical assistance only and do not constitute the report of the Secretary of the Interior on the project within the meaning of Section 2(b) of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, do not fulfill the requirements under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, nor do they represent the review comments of the U.S. Department of the Interior on any forthcoming environmental statement.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at this email address or the number below.

Heidi Woerber

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Ecological Services

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1511 47th Avenue

Moline, IL 61265

309/757-5800, ext. 209

309/757-5807 Fax

heidi_woerber@fws.gov

TO: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

FROM: Audrey Brodrick, Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company
Audrey Brodrick

DATE: February 3, 2014

RE: Illinois Central Railroad Company's Proposed Abandonment in
Champaign, Illinois, AB 43 (Sub No. 189X)

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The proposed abandonment has been docketed with the STB as AB 43 (Sub No. 189X).

Prior to filing the Notice of Exemption IC consulted with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (F&WS) regarding the proposed abandonment. Pursuant to the F&WS response, IC performed an analysis to determine whether identified critical habitats and/or certain species would be affected by the proposed abandonment. As discussed below, IC concludes that the proposed abandonment will have "No Effect" per the terms of the F&WS analysis.

The Line to be abandoned is approximately 3.2 miles in length. The Line runs through rural and open farmland, and is predominantly adjacent to various agricultural fields. There are no trees within in the right of way nor are there any heavily wooded areas or forests adjacent to the right-of-way, or in any close vicinity.

IC carefully reviewed the F&WS technical assistance website in January of 2015 for federally listed threatened and endangered species. According to the website two species are listed and may be present in Champaign County, Illinois: the Indiana bat and the Northern long-eared bat. The Indiana bat is said to maintain habitats in caves, mines; small stream corridors with well-developed riparian woods and upland forests. The Northern long-eared bat hibernates in caves and mines-swarming in surrounding wooded areas in autumn and roosts and forages in upland forests and woods.

Upon consummation of the proposed abandonment, IC will salvage the Line by removing the tracks, ties, and other above-ground track materials from rail corridor. All salvage operations will be performed by using existing access points on the Line and salvage operations will not alter or disturb the sub-grade of the Line. IC does not intend as a consequence of the proposed abandonment and salvage operations to trim or cut any trees or to engage in any excavation or other such ground disturbance along the Line, nor does it have any plans to remove any embankments or other earthen structures. There is one trestle on the Line and it will remain structurally in place after the abandonment and salvage operations.

For these reasons, we conclude that the abandonment of the Line of railroad described above will have "No Effect" on listed species, their habitats, or proposed or designated critical habitats.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodric@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

National Park Service, Midwest Region
Attention: Patty Trap, Acting Regional Director
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company –
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Ms. Trap:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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8. Coastal zone management;
9. Soil and natural resource conservations;
10. Agricultural land;
11. Regional and/or local use plans; and
12. The need or permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.



FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

National Park Service, Midwest Region
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

FLETCHER & SIPPEN LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodick@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

November 21, 2014

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, St. Louis District
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Re: Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) Illinois Central Railroad Company --
Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-
Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for the abandonment of approximately 3.2 miles of railroad line starting at MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois ("the Line"). The entire Line is located in Champaign County, Illinois. The Notice of Exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b), covering abandonment of rail lines over which no local traffic has moved during at least the previous two years.

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FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, St. Louis District
November 21, 2014
Page 2

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report for the proposed abandonment. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) and be sent to the undersigned, as counsel for IC.

In accordance with the STB's regulations, a copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before IC's Notice of Exemption is filed at the STB.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR
ABANDONMENT IN
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY,
ILLINOIS

To: Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH 49 C.F.R. PART 1105

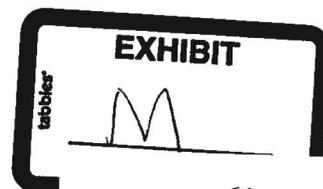
I hereby certify that on February 23, 2015 copies of the Environmental Report and Historic Report for the above-captioned proceeding were served on the agencies listed at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b), all agencies consulted in preparing the reports, and on the Illinois Historical Society. Service list and copy of the letter sent to all such agencies is attached and incorporated into this certificate as Attachment A. The reports have been sent within the time period specified, as Illinois Central Railroad Company is filing its Notice of Exemption more than 20 days after it served its Environmental Report and Historic Report. All appropriate agencies as listed in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e) have been consulted well in advance of preparing the Environmental Report.

I also certify that a newspaper notice was published on February 10, 2015 in the *News Gazette*, a newspaper of general circulation in Champaign County, Illinois. The notice alerted the public to the proposed abandonment, to possible reuse alternatives, and to procedures for participating in the STB proceeding. A copy of the text of the notice is attached to this certificate as Attachment B.

Dated this 19th day of March 2015.



Audrey L. Braddock
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company



Docket AB 43 (Sub No. 189X) ICRR – Proposed Abandonment in Seymour and Bondville, Illinois –
Champaign County

State Clearing House (or equivalent)
Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: (217) 782-0244

State Environmental Protection Agency
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
PO Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
Phone: (217) 782-3397
(Headquarters)

State Coastal Zone Management
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Management Program Office
160 N. LaSalle Street
Suite S-703
Chicago, IL 60601

Head of Each County (Champaign County Board Office)
Alan Kurtz, County Board Chair
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, IL 61802-4581
Phone: (217) 384-3776

Regional EPA Office
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Phone: (312) 353-2000

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3
5600 American Boulevard West
Suite 990
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458
Phone: (612) 713-5360

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (St. Louis District in the Mississippi Valley Division)
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, St. Louis District
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833
Phone: (314) 331-8000

- National Park Service
National Park Service, Midwest Region
Patty Trap, Acting Regional Director
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226
Phone: (402) 661-1736

U.S. Soil Conservation Service – National Resource Conservation Service
National Resources Conservation Service - USDA
Illinois State Office
2118 W. Park Court
Champaign, IL 61821
Phone: (217) 353-6600

National Geodetic Survey
National Geodetic Survey Information Services
SSMC-3, #9202
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910-3282
Attention: Simon Monroe
Simon.Monroe@noaa.gov

State Historical Agency
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701-1507
Phone: (217) 785-7930

State Department of Transportation
Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Public and Intermodal Transportation
2300 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62764
Phone: (217) 782-7820

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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www.fletcher-sippel.com

AUDREY L. BRODRICK
(312) 252-1518
abrodrick@fletcher-sippel.com

February 23, 2015

Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Re: **Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 189X)**
Illinois Central Railroad Company – Abandonment
Exemption – Seymour and Bondville, Illinois-Champaign County

Dear Sir/Madam:

On or after March 17, 2015, Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board a notice of exemption for the abandonment of IC'S railroad line extending from MP 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at MP 11 in Seymour, Illinois, a distance of approximately 3.2 miles. Your review of and comments on this project were previously requested by letter dated November 21, 2014.

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(b) and 1105.11, we are providing for your information the enclosed Environmental/Historic Report which will accompany the notice of exemption and which describes the proposed action and any expected environmental or historic effects. The Report also includes a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the Board's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Office of Environmental Analysis at the following address:

Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1106
Washington, DC 20423-0001
(202) 245-0295

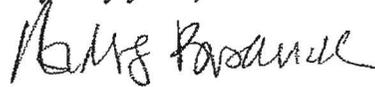
Your comments should reference Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 189X) and, if written, should include a copy to the undersigned. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to the Office of Environmental Analysis would be appreciated within three weeks.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Office of the Governor
February 23, 2015
Page 2

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, you should feel free to contact me directly at 312-252-1518. Thank you for your assistance on this matter. Kind regards.

Very truly yours,



Audrey L. Brodrick
Illinois Central Railroad Company

ALB:dg
Enclosure

NOTICE

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") gives notice that on or after March 4, 2015 it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of 3.2 miles of its railroad line beginning at milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois, ("the Line"). The entirety of the Line runs through Champaign County, Illinois and traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 61815, 61822 and 61875. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 43 (Sub No. 189X).

The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Office of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at 202-245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of Proceedings, 395 E. Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicants' representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs & Compliance at 202-245-0238. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: Fletcher & Sippel LLC, Attention: Audrey L. Brodrick, 29 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 920, Chicago, IL 60606.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION IN

The News-Gazette

The undersigned, THE NEWS-GAZETTE, INC. by its authorized agent, does hereby certify that said corporation is the publisher of The News-Gazette and that the same is the daily secular newspaper of general circulation published in Champaign, Champaign County, Illinois, and said newspaper is a newspaper as defined by 715 ILCS 5/5 (1992) and 715 ILCS 10/1 (1992); said publisher further certifies that the annexed notice was published in said newspaper, on the following date(s);

02/10/2015

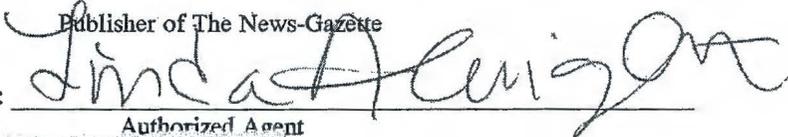
NOTICE ILLINOIS CENTRAL

Said publisher further certifies that the date of the first paper containing the said notice was on the first date hereinabove set forth and that the date of the last paper continuing the said notice was on the last date hereinabove set forth.

The News-Gazette, Inc.

Publisher of The News-Gazette

By:


Authorized Agent

Publisher's fee \$105.84
Ad # 1263639

NOTICE

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") gives notice that on or after March 4, 2015 it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of 3.2 miles of its railroad line beginning at milepost 7.8 in Bondville, Illinois and ending at milepost 11 in Seymour, Illinois, (the "Line"). The entirety of the Line runs through Champaign County, Illinois and traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 61815, 61822 and 61875. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 45 (Sub No. 189X).

The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Office of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at 202-245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of Proceedings, 395 E. Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423. [See 49 CFR 1104.1(e) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicants' representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs & Compliance at 202-245-0238. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: Fleicher & Sippel LLC, Attention: Audrey L. Brodrick, 29 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 920, Chicago, IL 60606.

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