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Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board, Office of Proceedings
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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

Dear Ms. Brown:

Illinois Central Railroad Company (“IC”) and Topflight Grain Cooperative, Inc. (“TGC”) jointly offer this status report as they have been directed to do pursuant to a Director’s Order issued in the above-captioned abandonment proceeding. This proceeding currently is being held in abeyance at the mutual consent of the parties in order to facilitate negotiations.

IC and TGC previously have reported jointly on the status of discussions, and, to date, they have not yet reached an accord concerning the disposition of the line segment that is the subject of this proceeding. However, TGC has very recently supplied IC with a written proposal, to which IC anticipates responding soon. Accordingly, substantive discussions are expected, and the parties are, as of this time, willing to permit this proceeding to remain in abeyance pending the outcome of upcoming talks.

Accordingly, IC and TGC request that the Board’s previously-issued abeyance order remain in place to facilitate upcoming discussions. The parties understand that they will be expected to supply a supplemental status report on or before July 13, 2016, unless one or both of the parties request that the abeyance order be lifted in the interim.

Respectfully submitted,



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cc: All parties of record