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August 9, 2016

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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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
August 9, 2016
Part of
Public Record

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, albeit somewhat belatedly, 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 concerning the disposition of the line segment that is the subject of this proceeding (the “Line”). In the furtherance of such discussions, IC supplied TGC with certain Line valuation information in June of 2106 at TGC’s request. In July, representatives of IC and TGC conferred regarding options for the disposition of the Line, but no agreement has yet been reached. Both sides have agreed, however, to continue discussions. Accordingly, IC and TGC are willing to permit this proceeding to remain in abeyance pending anticipated future negotiations.

IC and TGC therefore 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 in October of 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