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SERVICE DATE - AUGUST 11, 1999

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 567X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.—ABANDONMENT
EXEMPTION—IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA

Decided: August 9, 1999

On February 12, 1999, a decision and notice of interim trail use or abandonment was served authorizing a 180-day period for the City of Pittsburgh (the City) to negotiate an interim trail use/rail banking agreement with CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), for a .85-mile line extending from milepost 0.00 to milepost 0.85 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, PA. The 180-day negotiating period is scheduled to expire on August 11, 1999.

On August 3, 1999, the City filed a request for an extension of the negotiating period for an additional 90 days. The City states that negotiations are ongoing, but that more time is needed. By letter dated August 3, 1999, CSXT states that it concurs with the extension request.

Where as here, the carrier is willing to continue trail use negotiations, the negotiating period may be extended.¹ Under the circumstances, an extension of the negotiating period is warranted and will promote the establishment of trail use and rail banking consistent with the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. 1247(d). Accordingly, the negotiating period will be extended for an additional 90 days from August 11, 1999.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. The negotiating period is extended to November 9, 1999.
2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Beryl Gordon, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary

¹ See Rail Abandonments--Supplemental Trails Act Procedures, 4 I.C.C.2d 152 (1987).