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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
 Chief, Section of Administration
 Office of Proceedings
 Surface Transportation Board
 395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
 Washington, DC 20006

Re: **Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 2X), Connecticut Southern Railroad,
 Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Harford County, CT**

December 20, 2013	
 GRANTED Office of Proceedings	DECISION ID NO.: <u>43576</u>
	DECIDED DATE: <u>1/7/14</u>
	SERVICE DATE: <u>1/8/14</u>
	APPROVED: <u>Rachel D. Campbell</u> Director
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>extended to 12/31/14.</u>

Dear Ms. Brown:

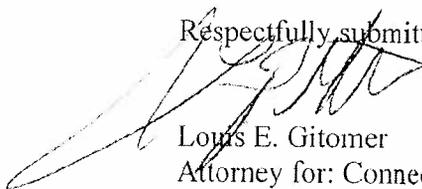
Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSOR") respectfully requests that the consummation filing deadline in this proceeding be extended until December 31, 2014.

CSOR filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. Part 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon 2.4 miles of rail line extending between milepost 2.0 and milepost 4.4 on its Suffield Subdivision in Hartford County, CT (the "Line"). Notice of the exemption was served and published in the *Federal Register* on January 9, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 1,126-27). The exemption became effective on February 8, 2012.

By decision served on April 3, 2013, the consummation filing deadline was extended to December 31, 2013, to allow CSOR to continue negotiating with the Connecticut Department of Transportation ("CDOT") for the sale of the Line.

Because of cost constraints, CDOT's interest in the Line has been deferred. However, CSOR is still attempting to find a buyer for the Line and is interested in continuing discussions with CDOT, once funding becomes available or another offer for the Line is received.¹ Because of its continued efforts, CSOR asks that the Board for an extension of consummation authority until December 31, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,


 Louis E. Gitomer
 Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

¹ CDOT has a First Right of Refusal if another offer for the Line is received after the abandonment is consummated.