



TOWN OF NATICK

Massachusetts 01760

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Martha L. White
Town Administrator

ENTERED
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May 1, 2014
Part of
Public Record

April 8, 2014

Via electronic mail <http://www.stb.dot.gov>

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 670X), *CSX Transportation, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Middlesex County, Massachusetts*

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing on behalf of The Town of Natick, Massachusetts (the "Town") to request a 180-day extension of the deadline for negotiations with CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") regarding the Notice of Interim Trail Use in the above-captioned proceeding. Pursuant to the October 25, 2006 initial decision of the Surface Transportation Board (the "Board"), and subsequent extensions, the negotiating period has been extended until April 17, 2014. CSXT and the Town of Natick both wish to continue our negotiations.

The appraisal that the Town of Natick and CSX jointly commissioned was completed in 2013; the parties are negotiating on a purchase price. The Town anticipates completing the initial design for a rail trail on the subject property in the coming months. Once the design is 75% complete, an acquisition may go forward, according to the procedure set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation; we anticipate reaching that stage in 2015.

Accordingly, the Town respectfully requests an additional 180 day extension of the Negotiating Deadline. CSXT concurs with this request and will file a separate letter once the Town's filing has been received by the STB.

In addition, the Town respectfully requests a waiver of the Board's filing fees in accordance with 49 CFR 1002.2(e)(1). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,


Martha White,
Town Administrator

FILING FEE WAIVED

cc: Parties of Record

Town Administrator, 13 East Central Street, Natick, MA. 01760. 508.647.6410. Fax (508) 647-6401