

# FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive  
Suite 920  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

Phone: (312) 252-1500  
Fax: (312) 252-2400  
www.fletcher-sippel.com

ROBERT A. WIMBISH  
(312) 252-1504  
rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

October 5, 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  
October 5, 2016  
Part of  
Public Record

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

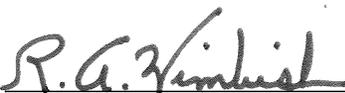
Dear Ms. Brown:

Illinois Central Railroad Company (“IC”) and Topflight Grain Cooperative, Inc. (“TGC”) jointly offer another in a series of status reports pursuant to a Director’s Order issued in the above-captioned abandonment proceeding. This proceeding currently is in abeyance at the mutual consent of the parties in order to allow for the continuation of private 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 recent weeks, representatives of IC and TGC have met to discuss options for the Line. Although a final agreement remains to be achieved, the parties are optimistic that they can reach an accord that would result in the preservation of the Line. Both sides have agreed to continue discussions. Accordingly, IC and TGC are willing to permit this proceeding to remain in abeyance pending additional negotiation.

IC and TGC therefore request that the Board’s previously-issued abeyance order remain in place. The parties understand that they will be expected to supply a supplemental status report in December of 2016, barring a final agreement in the interim.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Wimbish  
Fletcher & Sippel LLC  
29 N. Wacker Dr., Ste. 920  
Chicago, IL 60606-2832  
(312) 252-1500  
(312) 252-2400 (fax)  
[rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com](mailto:rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com)  
Attorney for Illinois Central Railroad Company



Thomas F. McFarland  
Thomas F. McFarland, P.C.  
208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1890  
Chicago, IL 60604-1112  
(312) 236-0204  
(312) 201-9695 (fax)  
[mcfarland@aol.com](mailto:mcfarland@aol.com)  
Attorney for Topflight Grain Cooperative, Inc.

cc: All Parties of Record