



CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CITY OF CHICAGO

235713

March 28, 2014

VIA E-FILING

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Karl Morell
Ball Janik LLP
655 15th Street NW, Suite 225
Washington, DC 20005

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 28, 2014
Part of
Public Record

Re: BNSF Railway Company--Abandonment Exemption--in Cook County, IL, STB Docket
No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 487X)

Dear Board:

The City of Chicago, an Illinois municipal corporation, acting by and through its Department of Transportation ("**City**"), hereby petitions the Surface Transportation Board ("**Board**") for an order extending its Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use or Abandonment ("**NITU**") in the above-referenced matter for an additional 180 days, through and including September 26, 2014.

On March 18, 2013, the City filed a request for issuance of a notice of interim trail use (NITU) and public use condition ("**Petition**") for approximately 1.1 miles of rail line, as follows: (1) approximately 0.50 miles of track (Sangamon Street Line) from south of Western Avenue Yard at 16th Street (Station 186+79), extending to the red board south of Cullerton Street (Station 163+50); and (2) approximately 0.60 miles of track (Lumber Street Line) from West Cermak Road at the Colonial Brick switch (Station 157+65), extending to the end of the line on Lumber Street (Station 197+81), in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.

On April 4, 2013, the Board issued its NITU, permitting the City to negotiate with BNSF Railway Company ("**BNSF**") for trail use for the line until October 1, 2013, and permitting public use negotiations for the line until October 2, 2013. In an Order on February 27, 2014 the Board (1) modified the NITU to vacate the segment of the Sangamon Line between Station 186+79 and 185+77 and (2) extended the NITU negotiating period to March 30, 2014 for that portion of the Sangamon Line between stations 185+77 and 163+50 and for the Lumber Line as originally petitioned. The City has commenced negotiations with BNSF and due diligence

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activities associated with the acquisition of the line, but needs additional time to complete these activities.

In support of its request for additional time, the City renews its Petition and its Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility.

A copy of this statement is being served on BNSF on the same date it is being served on the Board. By my signature below, I certify service upon Karl Morell, Ball Janik LLP, 655 15th Street NW, Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005, by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, first class, this 28th day of March, 2014.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1002.2(e)(1), the filing fee for this request is waived.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF CHICAGO, an Illinois municipal corporation

By:  

Rebecca Scheinfeld
Commissioner of Transportation

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