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October 20, 2016

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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
October 20, 2016
Part of
Public Record

RE: **Docket No. AB-1073X, Alabama & Florida Railway Co., Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Geneva, Coffee and Covington Counties, Ala.**

Dear Ms. Brown:

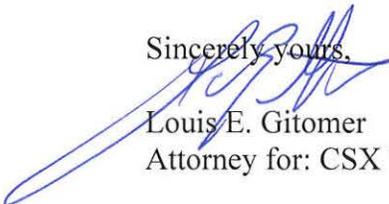
CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) responds to the letter filed October 18, 2016 by the Alabama Trails Commission (“ATC”) seeking an extension of time to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking (copy attached).

As the owner of the real estate underlying the Line, CSXT agrees with the six-month extension of time from October 14, 2016 to April 14, 2017 to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking for the 42.9-mile line of railroad between Andalusia, AL, milepost 581.3, and Geneva, AL, milepost 624.2 (the “Line”). CSXT sold the track and materials and the common carrier obligation to the predecessor of the Alabama & Florida Railway Co., Inc. (“A&F”) while retaining ownership of the real estate and leasing it to A&F. A&F has not consummated the abandonment of the Line. The Amendment to the Conditional Lease dated February 16, 2012 between CSXT and A&F is still effective.

As provided in 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), the extension of the trail negotiation period until April 14, 2017, creates a regulatory barrier to consummation of the abandonment, which provides A&F with an additional 60 days to consummate the abandonment to June 13, 2017, if trail negotiation is unsuccessful. CSXT respectfully requests that the Board confirm that the extension of the consummation period applies in this instance.

CSXT is efilings this response. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours,


Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: CSX Transportation, Inc.

cc: Ms. Quinn
Mr. LaKemper