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April 16, 2002



Certified Return Receipt Requested

Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: Illinois Central Railroad Company ("Carrier")
Abandonment in Village of Heyworth, McLean County, Illinois
ICC Docket No. AB-43(Sub-No.171X)

Dear Secretary:

This request is filed on behalf of the Village of Heyworth, McLean County, Illinois, which is a political subdivision of the State of Illinois, hereinafter referred to as the "Proponent".

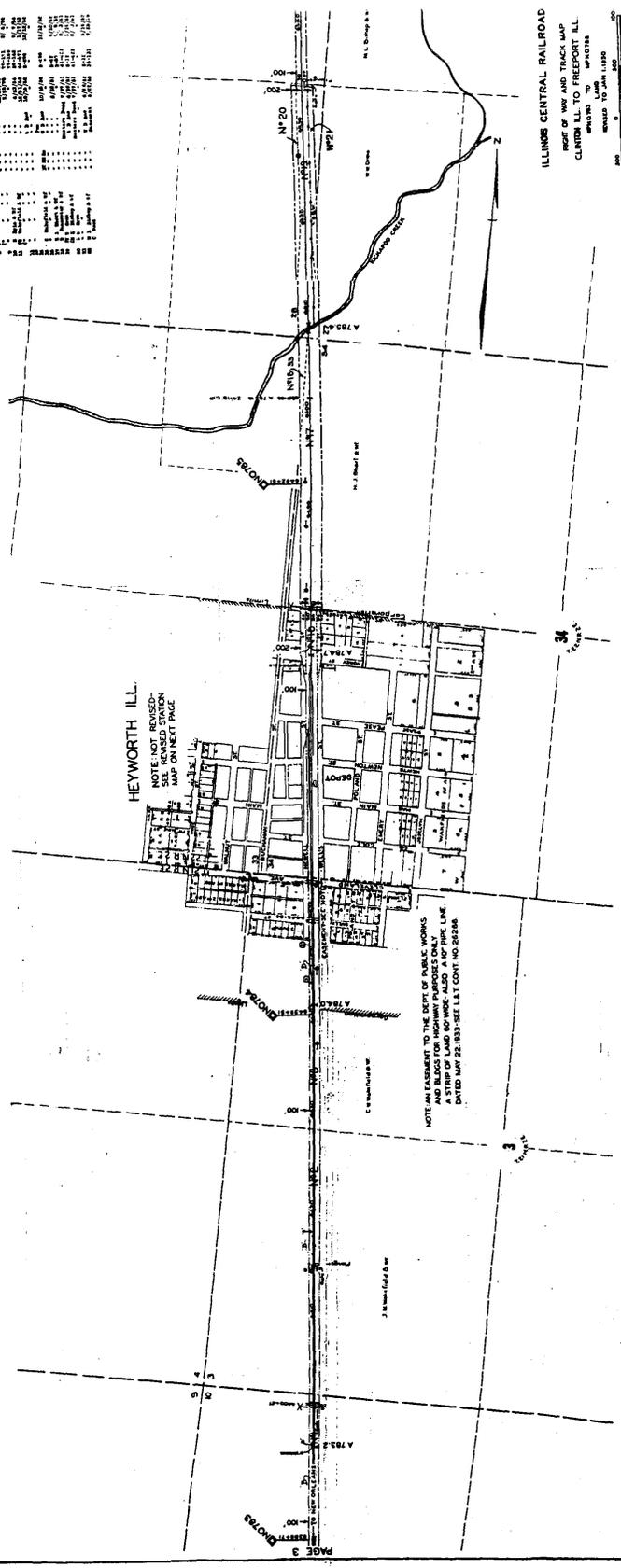
Proponent requests issuance of a Public Use Condition as well as an Interim Trail Use Condition rather than an outright abandonment authorization between Milepost 783.42 and Milepost 786.5, a distance of approximately 3.08 miles, in Heyworth, McLean County, Illinois.

A. Request for Public Use Condition

Proponent asks the Surface Transportation Board to find that this property is suitable for other public use, specifically trail use, and to place the following conditions on the abandonment:

1. An order prohibiting the Carrier from disposing of the corridor, other than the tracks, ties and signal equipment, except for public use on reasonable terms. Justification for this condition is that the rail corridor in question provides an opportunity for the Village of Heyworth to develop an excellent recreational trail in conversion of the property to trail uses in accordance with local plans. The time period sought is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization. Proponent is in need of this time in order to determine the feasibility of development of such a trail, assemble and review relevant information, including title information with respect to the corridor, develop and complete appropriate plans for a trail and attempt to reach an agreement with the Carrier on the conveyance of the corridor to the Proponent.
2. An order barring removal or destruction of potential trail-related structures such as bridges, tressels, culverts and tunnels. The justification for this condition is that these structures have considerable value for recreational trail purposes. The time period requested is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment

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HEYWORTH ILL.
NOTE: NOT REVISION
MAP ON NEXT PAGE.

NOT AN EASEMENT TO THE DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS
AND BLDGS FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES OF THIS LINE.
DATED MAY 22, 1933-SEE LET. CONT. NO. 26284.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD
ROUTE OF WAY AND TRACK MAP
CLUBB ILL. TO FREEPORT ILL.
REVISED TO JAN. 11, 1920



authorization for the same reasons as indicated above.

B. Request for Interim Trail Use

The railroad right-of-way in this proceeding is suitable for railbanking. In addition to the public use conditions sought above, Proponent also requests that it be permitted a period of 180 days in which to develop a proposal for interim trail use and railbanking pursuant to Section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C., Sec.1247(d).

C. Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility

In order to establish interim use and trail banking under Section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C., Sec. 1247(d), and 49 C.F.R., Sec. 1152.29, the Proponent is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of (unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability), and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way of Illinois Central Railroad Company.

The property known as the Heyworth Spur extends from railroad Mile Post 783.42 near Heyworth, Illinois to Mile Post 786.5 near Heyworth, Illinois, a distance of 3.08 miles in the Village of Heyworth, McLean County, Illinois. The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad proposed for abandonment in Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-43(Sub-No. 171X).

A map depicting the right-of-way is attached.

The Proponent acknowledges that the use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing obligation to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service.

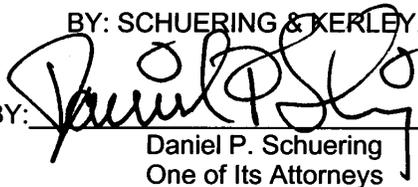
By my signature below, I certify service upon Illinois Central Railroad Company at the offices of Fletcher & Sippel, LLC, Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 3125, 180 North Stetson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60601-6721, Attention Mr. Thomas Litwiler.

Respectfully Submitted:

**VILLAGE OF HEYWORTH
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

BY: SCHUERING & KERLEY, P.C.

BY:


Daniel P. Schuering
One of Its Attorneys