



NATALIE S. ROSENBERG
Counsel

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Law Department
500 Water Street
Speed Code J-150
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Fax (904) 359-1248
Telephone (904) 359-3100

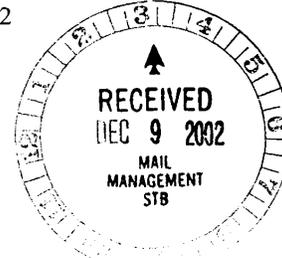
Writer's direct telephone line:
(904) 359-1253

December 6, 2002

VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20423

206787



Re: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 579X)**
CSX Transportation, Inc. -
Abandonment in Parke County and Vermillion County, Indiana

Dear Secretary Williams:

By decision served on November 19, 2002, the Board granted CSX Transportation, Inc.'s ("CSXT") request for an extension of the consummation date in the above-captioned abandonment proceeding. CSXT requested additional time to consummate so that it could contact the Indiana Trails Fund ("ITF") to inquire as to whether there was still an interest in the possibility of rail-banking the relevant line. CSXT did contact ITF, and learned that ITF was still very interested in the possibility of developing a trail on this line. As such, CSXT requests that the Board impose a standard 180-day trail negotiating period. CSXT also requests that the consummation date be extended until at least sixty (60) days after the close of such trail negotiating period.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters. Please feel free to call my office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,


Natalie S. Rosenberg

NSR/pkw

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Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
December 6, 2002
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cc: Mr. Tom McFarland
Suite 1890
208 South LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Mr. David Coburn
Steptoe & Johnson
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036-1795

Mr. Richard Vonnegut
Indiana Trails Fund, Inc.
47 S. Pennsylvania Street
Post Office Box 402
Indianapolis, Indianapolis 46206-0407