



NATALIE S. ROSENBERG
Counsel

206888

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 17, 2002

VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

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

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 586X)
CSX Transportation, Inc.-Abandonment
Exemption in McMinn County, Tennessee**

Dear Mr. Williams:

In a letter to the Board dated June 22, 2001 regarding a request for trail use, CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") explained that:

CSXT is currently considering selling a majority of the relevant line for use as an industry track for continued rail purposes. As such, this letter is intended to inform the Board that at the present time, CSXT is only able to negotiate with the City of Athens with regard to the portion of the line that is not being considered for use as an industry track. In the event, however, that CSXT decides not to sell the line as an industrial track or the party interested in purchasing the line as an industry track fails to finalize the transaction, CSXT would be more than willing to negotiate with the City of Athens for a trail on the entire line.

By decision served on July 27, 2001, an NITU was issued for the entire line. CSXT recently learned that the industry is no longer interested in pursuing the purchase of a portion of the relevant line. CSXT has also learned that the City is still very interested in pursuing a trail. As such, CSXT requests an extension on the trail negotiating period with the City until June 13, 2003. Additionally, the consummation date in this matter is scheduled for January 27, 2003 by virtue of a decision served on July 26, 2002. Because of the ongoing trail negotiations, CSXT requests that the consummation date be extended until August 13, 2003.



**ENTERED
Office of Proceedings**

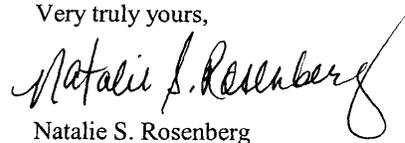
DEC 20 2002

**Part of
Public Record**

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
December 17, 2002
Page 2

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natalie S. Rosenberg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "N".

Natalie S. Rosenberg

NSR/pkw

cc: Mr. Mitchell Moore
City of Athens, City Manager