

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

207063



Canadian National/Illinois Central  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317  
Telephone: (312) 755-7954  
Fax: (312) 755-7669  
Internet: Michael.Barron@cn.ca



January 10, 2003

First class mail and fax (202) 565-9004

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

JAN 17 2003

Part of  
Public Record

Mr. Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 173X), Illinois Central  
Railroad Company — Petition for Exemption for  
Abandonment in Forrest County, Mississippi

Dear Secretary Williams:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is agreeable to a Public Use Condition being imposed in this proposed abandonment pursuant to the terms of the letter of December 31, 2002, submitted in this proceeding on behalf of the Pearl & Leaf Rivers Rails-to-Trails Recreational District. Furthermore, IC does not object to the request for an interim trail use and rail banking condition as set forth in the same letter. IC intends to negotiate with the Pearl & Leaf Rivers Rails-to-Trails Recreational District for a possible interim trail use agreement.

IC considers the letter of the Pearl & Leaf Rivers Recreational District to be simply a request for conditions to which IC is agreeable in this proceeding, and not a protest or petition for reconsideration. Therefore, IC requests that the Board not treat it as a protest or petition for reconsideration, just a request for conditions.

Feel free to call me at (312) 755-7954 if you have any questions. Ten copies of this letter are included in the submission to the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel for Illinois Central  
Railroad Company

Encls.

cc: Elmer Beardshall  
Pearl & Leaf Rivers Rails-to-Trails Recreational District  
P.O. Box 15187  
Hattiesburg, MS 39404