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**BNSF**



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**VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL**

April 15, 2003

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



**Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 393X); The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Tolna and Hamar, North Dakota**

Dear Secretary Williams:

On May 3, 2002, BNSF filed a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon or discontinue service of a 6.00-mile line of railroad between railroad milepost 92.00 in Tolna, Nelson County, North Dakota and railroad milepost 98.00 in Hamar, Eddy County, North Dakota.

By decision served May 9, 2002, the Board ordered that abandonment of this railroad line must be consummated by May 9, 2003. However, due to weather-related delays and salvage scheduling difficulties, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation date. Salvage operations are not planned to be completed until approximately September 30, 2003 (after the Board's initial deadline for consummation). Therefore, BNSF requests an extension until September 30, 2003 to consummate the abandonment of this line.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (817) 352-2354 or [Sarah.Bailiff@BNSF.com](mailto:Sarah.Bailiff@BNSF.com)

Sincerely,

Sarah Whitley Bailiff

SWB/js

cc: Richard Batie  
Mack Wiens

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