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Via Messenger and Fax (202) 565-9004

May 5, 2003

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

Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 171X) — Illinois Central Railroad
Company — Abandonment Exemption — In McLean County, IL

Dear Mr. Williams:

The NITU for the above-referenced proceeding expired May 1, 2003. A notice of consummation in the proceeding is due May 6, 2003. Despite our inquiries, the Village of Heyworth, proponent of the NITU, has not contacted us about whether they wish to extend the NITU. Before Illinois Central (IC) decides to consummate the abandonment, we would like to determine the Village's intentions.

Therefore, IC requests that the STB extend the due date for the notice of consummation in this proceeding an additional 60 days beyond May 6, 2003.

Ten copies of this letter are enclosed for filing at the Board. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Barron, Jr. /TKK

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

Encls.

cc: Joe Dettmar, via fax (202) 565-9002
Daniel P. Schuering, attorney for Village of Heyworth, via fax (217) 698-6161