



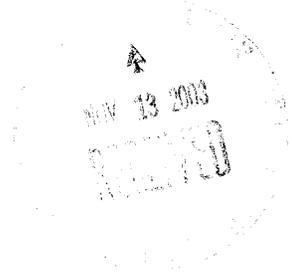
Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

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

November 11, 2003

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

209411



Re: Environmental Report, Historic Report and Required Certifications for  
Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 175X), Illinois Central Railroad Company—  
Notice of Exemption for Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama

Dear Secretary Williams:

Illinois Central Railroad Company intends on filing a Notice of Exemption for the above-referenced proposed abandonment any time on or after December 1, 2003. Enclosed for the above-referenced Notice of Exemption are the following, which are required by 49 C.F.R. Part 1105:

1. An original and ten copies of the Environmental/Historic Report
2. An original and ten copies of the transmittal letter that accompanied the reports, and
3. An original and ten copies of a certificate demonstrating compliance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 1105.

Please stamp and return the duplicate copy of this letter to my attention to indicate that you received the items listed. As shown in the Environmental Report, the proposed abandonment does not impact a coastal zone, so Illinois Central Railroad Company concludes the proposed abandonment does not need a Coastal Zone Management Plan Consistency Review.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Encls.

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

NOV 13 2003

Part of  
Public Record

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-43 (SUB-NO. 175X)

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY  
— NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR ABANDONMENT—  
IN MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA

NOV 18 2000

RECEIVED

**ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORIC REPORT**

Illinois Central Railroad Company (IC) submits this Environmental/Historic Report in compliance with the reporting requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8. Supporting correspondence is attached. It is the conclusion of this report that the proposed abandonment, if implemented, will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT – 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)**

1. Proposed Action and Alternatives. IC seeks to abandon its line of railroad, referred to herein as “Prichard Trackage,” between mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 for a total of 1.03 miles located in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. The proposed abandonment was part of the Gulf Mobile and Ohio Railroad Company mainline to Meridian, Mississippi from Mobile, Alabama.

The terrain is generally flat. Prichard Trackage runs adjacent to an elementary school and is near a low-income housing project and the site of a proposed senior citizen's center.

There are three highway at-grade crossings located along the proposed abandonment.

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There are no buildings, railroad bridges or other structures located within the abandonment area except for one 18" culvert. The line passes underneath a federal highway overpass (I-65).

Baird Steel Inc., accessed by a Baird-owned spur needing extensive repair, was the last customer located on the proposed abandonment. There has been no business for over two years on Prichard Trackage.

A map showing the location of Prichard Trackage is attached hereto as Appendix A.

2. Transportation System. IC does not anticipate that existing regional or local transportation systems or patterns will be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment. The Alabama Department of Transportation has no objection to the proposed abandonment and they are not aware of any potentially related environmental effects. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix B.

Comments were also requested from the Transportation Division of the Alabama Public Service Commission; they have not yet responded. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix C.

No traffic will be diverted as there have been no revenue cars on Prichard Trackage for over two years.

Abandonment of Prichard Trackage will allow permanent closure of three highway grade crossings as follows:

<u>Milepost*</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>DOT No.</u>	<u>Warning Devices</u>
3.97	Price Avenue	303633D	Mast mounted FL (2) Cantilevered FL (1)
4.19	Thomas Street	303634K	Crossbucks
4.55	Bessemer Avenue	303635S	Crossbucks

\* FRA inventory lists all 3 locations at milepost 3.67.

The line runs underneath an Interstate Highway 65 overpass.

There are no buildings, railroad bridges or other structures located within the abandonment area except for one 18" culvert.

The width of the right-of-way is generally 100 feet.

3. Land Use.

(i) IC does not foresee any inconsistency with regional and/or local land use plans. IC has contacted the City of Prichard and has learned the City may have an interest in the property for senior and/or low-income residential development. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix D.

The Mobile County Commission has indicated that the City of Prichard has jurisdictional authority over environmental issues within the City's boundaries. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix E.

(ii) Prichard Trackage lies within an urban area, therefore, IC believes that the proposed abandonment will not impact any prime agricultural lands. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (Mobile, Alabama), was asked for comments; they have not yet responded. IC does not intend to remove the road bed and culvert. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix F.

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(iii) IC has seen no indication that Prichard Trackage lies within a designated Coastal Zone Management Area and, accordingly, IC believes the proposed abandonment will not affect any land or water uses in such an area or result in any coastal impacts. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Coastal Programs Office, has not responded to our request for comments. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix G.

(iv) Prichard Trackage does not contain anything of historical or archeological significance and the Alabama Historical Commission concurs. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix H-1. The Alabama Department of Archives & History has not yet responded to our request for comments. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix H-2.

(v) There has been no response to IC's request for comments from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix I.

4. Energy.

a. The proposed abandonment will not have any effect on the transportation of energy resources. No energy resource commodities move over Prichard Trackage, and IC foresees little or no possibility that such on-line traffic would develop in the future.

b. The movement and/or recovery of recyclable commodities will not be adversely affected by this abandonment. No such traffic has been handled on Prichard Trackage for many years (if ever), and IC foresees little or no possibility that any on-line recyclable commodity traffic would develop in the future.

c. Abandonment will not result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency. There is no rail freight traffic on Prichard Trackage and thus there will be no changes in existing transportation patterns or energy usage as a result of the proposed abandonment.

d. Not applicable. Abandonment of Prichard Trackage will not cause the diversion of more than 1,000 rail carloads per year or an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year to motor carriers.

5. Air.

a. Not applicable. Abandonment will not result in (A) a minimum increase in rail traffic of 100% or eight trains per day on any segment of rail line, (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100%, or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles per day on any road segment.

b. Abandonment of Prichard Trackage will not result in traffic increases which exceed the thresholds specified in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)(ii)(A), (B) or (C).

c. Not applicable. There is no traffic on the proposed abandonment, thus no shipments of ozone-depleting materials will be diverted as a result of this abandonment.

6. Noise. Not applicable. As indicated above, none of the thresholds identified in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)(i) will be exceeded as a result of the abandonment.

7. Safety.

a. Abandoning Prichard Trackage will result in the permanent closure of three grade crossings. During any salvage operations on Prichard Trackage, precautions will be taken to ensure public safety.

b. Not applicable. To IC's knowledge no hazardous commodities were handled on Prichard Trackage in recent times. As there is no traffic at all, the proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of hazardous materials.

c. There are no known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way of Prichard Trackage. There are no known environmental issues relating to this site.

8. Biological Resources.

(i) No listed, proposed or candidate species are present within the abandonment area according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix J.

The Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has not yet responded to our communication regarding the Prichard Trackage abandonment. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix K.

(ii) Prichard Trackage does not pass through or is not adjacent to any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges or any national or state parks or forests and, accordingly, none will be adversely affected.

9. Water.

(i) IC has contacted the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to determine whether the proposed abandonment is consistent with applicable federal, state and local water quality standards. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix L. While ADEM has not responded, IC will be mindful of proper erosion control in the removal of track and other salvageable materials to minimize impact. IC intends on leaving the culvert in place.

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has not responded to our request for comments. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix M.

Comments were also requested from the Geological Survey of Alabama (GSA). As part of its mission, GSA explores and evaluates the mineral, water, energy, biological, and other natural resources of the State of Alabama. GSA has not yet responded. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix N.

(ii) The Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the abandonment property is located in a nonwetland/upland area based upon the Corps' 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual. Therefore permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act are not be required. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix O.

IC also believes that removal of rails and ties will not affect any existing wetlands. In addition, abandonment should not impact any 100-year floodplain if no additional fill is placed in any floodplain.

(iii) Based on IC's plans for disposal and recycling of track material, IC concludes that no permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act are required. No material will be disposed of into waterways as part of the abandonment.

10. Proposed Mitigation.

Since IC anticipates no adverse environmental impact from this proposed transaction, no mitigation actions are proposed.

**HISTORICAL REPORT — 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)**

1. Map. A map of Prichard Trackage is attached hereto as Appendix A.
2. Description of Line. Prichard Trackage runs in a generally northwest-southeast direction and starts at milepost 3.67, and ends at milepost 4.70, for a total of 1.03 miles, all within the city limits of Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. Topography is generally flat. The line traverses through an urban area and tracks are located near a low-income housing project, adjacent to an elementary school, and near the site of a proposed senior citizen's center.

The right-of-way is generally 50 feet on either side of the center line of the track, or 100 feet.

3. Photographs. There are no buildings, structures, bridges, or anything of note within the proposed abandonment, thus no photographs are submitted.

Information on Structures. There are no buildings, structures, or bridges within the proposed Prichard Trackage abandonment.

4. History of Operations. Prichard Trackage is part of the old Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad mainline from Mobile, Alabama to Meridian, Mississippi. A brief history is as follows:

- 1848 - 1940 Mobile & Ohio Railroad is formed through new construction and mergers.
- 1872 – 1940 Gulf, Mobile and Northern Railroad Company is formed through new construction and mergers.
- 1940 Mobile & Ohio Railroad merges with Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad resulting in the formation of the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad.
- 1972 Illinois Central Railroad merges with the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad resulting in the formation of the Illinois Central Gulf.
- 1990 Name reverts to Illinois Central Railroad Company.
- 1999 The Illinois Central Railroad Company merges into the Canadian National Railway Company.

5. Engineering Documents. There are no engineering documents related to Prichard Trackage.

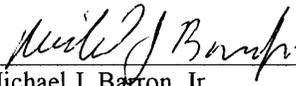
6. Historic Criteria. As noted above, there are no buildings or structures located within the proposed abandonment area. The Alabama Historical Commission has determined that the abandonment will have no effect on any known cultural resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. They have stipulated, however, that should any such resource be encountered during activities associated with the abandonment, that work cease and their office be contacted immediately. See correspondence attached hereto as

Appendix H-1. IC will ensure this stipulation is followed. The Alabama Department of Archives & History has not responded to our request for comments. See correspondence attached hereto as Appendix H-2.

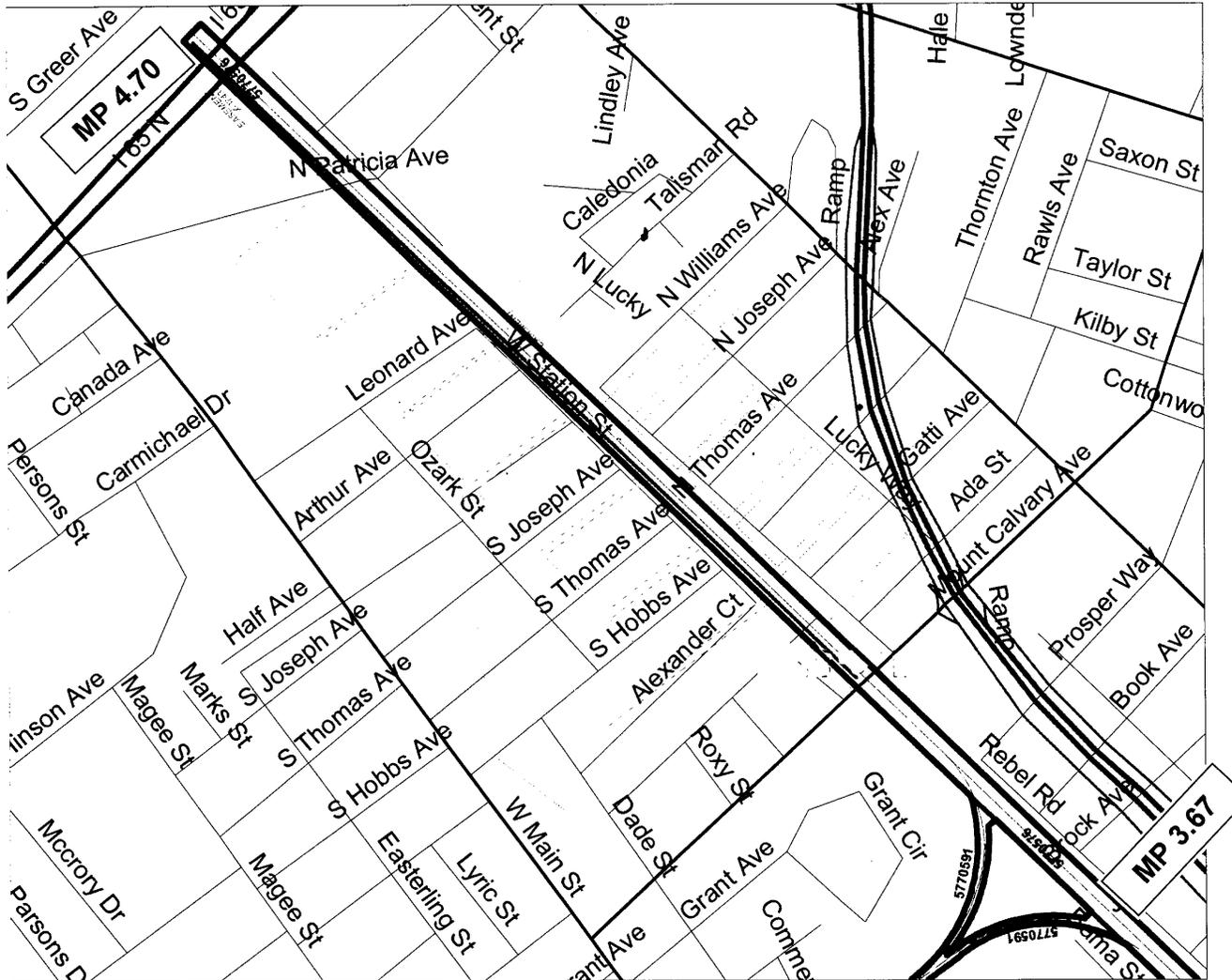
7. Ground Disturbance. IC is unaware of environmental conditions that might affect the archaeological recovery of resources. Access to the line is good.

Dated: November 7, 2003

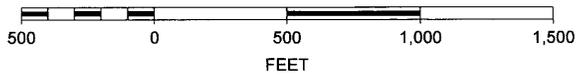
Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company  
CN  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, IL 60611-5317  
(312) 755-7954

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY  
PRICHARD, ALABAMA



SCALE 1 : 7,187





Bob Riley  
Governor

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-3050



Joe McInnes  
Transportation Director

October 8, 2003

Mr. Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Council for Illinois Central RR  
Canadian National/Illinois Central  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317

Re: Abandonment in Mobile County

Dear Mr. Barron:

The Alabama Department of Transportation received your August 11, 2003 letter concerning your railroad line between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Alabama. We have no objection to the proposed abandonment and are not aware of any potential environmental effects related to this action.

If further information is needed, please contact Jenny Williams of my staff at (334) 353-6427.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert J. Jilla".

Robert J. Jilla  
Multimodal Transportation Engineer

RJJ/JW/jw

c: File

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix B



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Joseph McInnes  
Transportation Director  
Alabama Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 303050  
Montgomery, AL 36130-3050

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. McInnes:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

Water quality;	National or state parks or forests;
Designated wetlands;	Coastal zone management
100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
Critical habitats	Regional and/or local land use plans; and
Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix C



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

August 11, 2003

Alabama Public Service Commission  
Transportation Division, Suite 850  
P.O. Box 304260  
Montgomery, AL 36130

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

To Whom It May Concern:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
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Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Barron, Jr.', is written over the typed name.

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

Encl.

# Madden & Soto

465 Dauphin Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602

251-432-0380 (voice)

251-433-5964 (facsimile)

[www.maddenandsoto.com](http://www.maddenandsoto.com)

Arthur J. Madden, III  
Domingo Soto  
Peter J. Madden

[ajmadden@bellsouth.net](mailto:ajmadden@bellsouth.net)  
[domsoto@bellsouth.net](mailto:domsoto@bellsouth.net)  
[pjmadd@bellsouth.net](mailto:pjmadd@bellsouth.net)

August 25, 2003

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Canadian National/Illinois Central  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317

Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment  
in Mobile County, Alabama

Dear Mr. Barron:

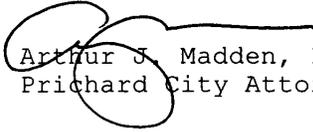
I am the City Attorney for Prichard, Alabama. Prichard's Mayor, Charles E. Harden has forwarded me your letter regarding the company's intent to abandon 1.03 miles of railway line in Prichard, Alabama.

I would appreciate it if you would advise me of the company's intentions with regard to the railway line bed if the surface Transportation Board approves abandonment. The stretch of line proposed to be abandoned runs adjacent to an elementary school, near a low income housing project and near the site of a proposed senior citizen's center.

The City of Prichard is interested in learning how the company's plans relate to the City's plans for this area.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Arthur J. Madden, III  
Prichard City Attorney

AJM/bt

cc: Mayor Harden

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix D



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Charles E. Harden  
Mayor  
City of Prichard  
P.O. Box 10427  
Prichard, AL 36610

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mayor Harden:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

Water quality;	National or state parks or forests;
Designated wetlands;	Coastal zone management
100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
Critical habitats	Regional and/or local land use plans; and
Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Director of Public Works / County Engineer  
**Joe W. Ruffer, P.E.**

Assistant County Engineer/Transportation Director  
**John E. Murphy Jr., P.E.**

Environmental Services Director  
**G. William Melton, P.E.**



## Appendix E

Design Engineering Manager  
**W. Bryan Kegley II, P.E., P.L.S.**

Construction Engineering Manager  
**Cheryl Anthony, P.E.**

Traffic Manager  
**James D. Foster**

Mobile Government Plaza  
205 Government Street  
Mobile, Alabama 36644 - 1600

## MOBILE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Phone: (251) 574-8595  
Fax: (251) 574-4722

August 26, 2003

Mr. Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Canadian National/Illinois Central  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317

RE: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama

Dear Mr. Barron:

I have received your letter of August 11, 2003 concerning a proposed abandonment of 1.03 miles of railroad line in Prichard, AL.

Please be advised, the Mobile County Commission does not have jurisdiction over the environmental issues inside the corporate boundary of the City of Prichard. I would suggest you contact the City for their input.

With best regards

Bill Melton, P.E.  
Environmental Services Director

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix E



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. John Pafenbach  
Administrator  
County of Mobile  
205 Government Street  
Mobile, AL 36644-1001

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Pafenbach:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

United States Department of Agriculture



 NRCS Natural Resources  
Conservation Service

P.O. Box 905, 127-A Clarke Street, Grove Hill, AL 36451  
Phone (251) 275-3185 Fax (251) 275-8888

August 25, 2003

Michael J. Barron, Jr., Counsel  
Illinois Central Railroad Company  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, IL 60611-5317

Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company  
Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, AL

Dear Mr. Barron:

After reviewing the information on the above named project, it is determined there are no immediate environmental concerns.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (251) 275-3185.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth W. Johnson".

KENNETH W. JOHNSON  
Resource Soil Scientist

cc  
Ben Malone, DC, Mobile County, AL

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix F



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Ben Malone  
District Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services  
Mobile Service Center  
1070 Schillinger Rd. N  
Mobile, AL 36608-5200

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Malone:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix G



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

August 11, 2003

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs  
Coastal Programs Office  
1208 Main Street  
Daphne, AL 36526

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

To Whom It May Concern:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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Very truly yours,

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

Encl.



STATE OF ALABAMA  
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
468 SOUTH PERRY STREET  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-0900

LEE H. WARNER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEL: 334-242-3184  
FAX: 334-240-3477

September 30, 2003

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel for Illinois Central  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317

RE: AHC 03-1186  
Illinois Central RR Abandonment  
Mobile County

Dear Mr. Barron:

Upon review of the proposed project, the Alabama Historical Commission has determined that the project activities will have no effect on any known cultural resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, our office can concur with the proposed activities.

**However, should any archaeological cultural resources be encountered during project activities, work shall cease and our office shall be consulted immediately. This stipulation shall be placed on the construction plans to insure contractors are aware of it.**

We appreciate your efforts on this issue. If we may be of further service or if you have any questions or comments, please contact Stacye Hathorn of our office and be sure to **include the project number referenced above.**

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ann Brown  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix H-1



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

August 11, 2003

Dr. Lee H. Warner  
Executive Director  
Alabama Historical Commission  
468 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Re: **Ilinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in  
Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Dr. Warners:

Ilinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in performing a historical review process. A map of the area slated for abandonment is attached. There are no structures within the proposed abandonment area, hence no photographs are enclosed.

Thank you for your assistance. Please call me if you have questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. J. Barron".

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix H-2



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Ed Bridges  
Director  
Alabama Department of Archives & History  
P.O. Box 300100  
Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

Re: **Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in  
Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Bridges:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in performing a historical review process. A map of the area slated for abandonment is attached. There are no structures within the proposed abandonment area, hence no photographs are enclosed.

Thank you for your assistance. Please call me if you have questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael J. Barron, Jr.".

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix I



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. J.I. Palmer, Jr.  
Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

Water quality;  
Designated wetlands;  
100-year-old flood plains;  
Endangered or threatened species;  
Critical habitats  
Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;

National or state parks or forests;  
Coastal zone management  
Soil and natural resource conservation  
Agricultural land;  
Regional and/or local land use plans; and  
The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404  
of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Appendix J

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

ES 2  
PX-SF  
y



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

02-1324

August 11, 2003

Mr. Sam Hamilton  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

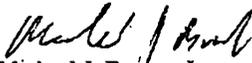
Water quality;  
Designated wetlands;  
100-year-old flood plains;  
Endangered or threatened species;  
Critical habitats  
Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;

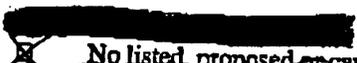
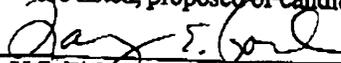
National or state parks or forests;  
Coastal zone management  
Soil and natural resource conservation  
Agricultural land;  
Regional and/or local land use plans; and  
The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

  
 No listed, proposed or candidate species present  
  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Field Supervisor

Encl.

9-3-03

Date

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix J



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Sam Hamilton  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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Designated wetlands;	Coastal zone management
100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
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Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix K



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. M. N. Pugh  
Director  
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries  
64 N. Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Pugh:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

Water quality;	National or state parks or forests;
Designated wetlands;	Coastal zone management
100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
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Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix L



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. James W. Warr  
Director  
Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management  
P.O. Box 301463  
Montgomery, AL 36130-1463

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Warr:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

Water quality;	National or state parks or forests;
Designated wetlands;	Coastal zone management
100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
Critical habitats	Regional and/or local land use plans; and
Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Michael J. Barron, Jr.', is written over a horizontal line.

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix M



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Barnett Lawley  
Commissioner  
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
64 N. Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36110

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Lawley:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

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Agricultural land;  
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of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix N



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Berry H. Tew, Jr.  
State Geologist and Director  
Geological Survey of Alabama  
420 Hackberry Lane  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-6999

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Tew:

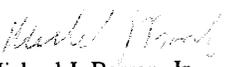
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Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**P.O. BOX 2288**

**MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001**

September 2, 2003

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Branch  
Operations Division

Canadian National/Illinois Central  
Attention: Mr. Michael Barron, Jr.  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317

Dear Mr. Barron:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your request for the performance of a Jurisdictional Determination/Wetland Delineation with respect to the abandonment of a railroad line between mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard. The project site is located in Mobile County, Alabama.

I have been assigned as project manager for your Jurisdictional Determination/Wetland Delineation. My telephone number is (251) 694-3734, and your application has been given the number ALJ03-02982-C. Please refer to this number should you have any reason to contact this office.

In the event additional information is needed or problems arise pertaining to your application, I will contact you. Please be assured that every effort will be made to complete a site inspection in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

151

Debra D. Archie  
Project Manager  
Enforcement Section



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**P.O. BOX 2288**

**MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001**

October 3, 2003

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Branch  
Operations Division

SUBJECT: No Permit Required - Jurisdictional Number  
ALJ03-02982-C, Proposed Abandonment of Railroad

Canadian National/Illinois Central  
Attention: Mr. Michael Barron, Jr.  
455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-5317

Dear Mr. Barron:

Reference is made to your letter requesting a jurisdictional determination on property located between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard. The property is located within Mobile County.

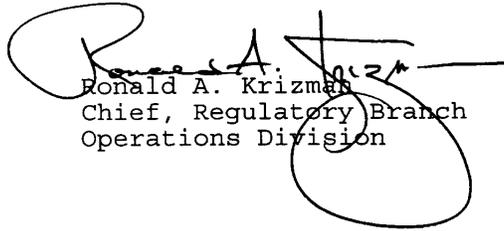
An in-office review conducted on September 30, 2003, revealed that a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will not be required for the proposed abandonment of 1.03 mile line of railroad. The property is a nonwetland/upland area based upon the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual.

Please be advised that this jurisdictional determination reflects current policy and regulation and is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of this letter. If after the 5-year period this jurisdictional determination has not been specifically revalidated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, it shall automatically expire. Should you disagree with this determination, the enclosed Notification of Applicant Options outlines the steps to take to file your objection.

The statements contained herein do not convey any property rights or any exclusive privileges, and do not authorize any injury to property or obviate the requirements to obtain other local, State, or Federal assent required by law for the activities discussed above.

If the scope of work or project location changes, you are urged to contact this office for a verification of this determination. Thank you for your cooperation with our permit program. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Ms. Debra D. Archie of the Enforcement Section at (251) 694-3734.

Sincerely,



Ronald A. Krizman  
Chief, Regulatory Branch  
Operations Division

Enclosure

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department

Appendix 0



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

August 11, 2003

Mr. Patrick Robbins  
Chief, Legislative and Public Affairs, CESAM-DX  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Mobile District  
P.O. Box 2288  
Mobile, AL 36628-0001

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment in Mobile County, Alabama**

Dear Mr. Robbins:

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") is planning to file a proposed abandonment with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") for approval to abandon a 1.03 mile line of railroad between railroad mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. We have attached a map for your reference. IC is advising you of the proposed action so you may assist us in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action on, among other things, the following:

Water quality;	National or state parks or forests;
Designated wetlands;	Coastal zone management
100-year-old flood plains;	Soil and natural resource conservation
Endangered or threatened species;	Agricultural land;
Critical habitats	Regional and/or local land use plans; and
Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges;	The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We would appreciate a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the environmental report, which we will file with the STB. We intend on filing the Environmental Report in three weeks.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.

209411

Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 175X)

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD  
COMPANY

- NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR  
ABANDONMENT IN MOBILE  
COUNTY, ALABAMA

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

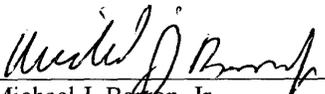


CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH 49 C.F.R. PART 1105

I hereby certify that on November 11, 2003, copies of the Environmental Report and Historic Report for the above-captioned proceeding were served on the agencies listed at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b), all agencies consulted in preparing the reports, and on the Alabama Historical Commission and Alabama Department of Archives & History. A service list is attached and incorporated into this certificate as Attachment A. The reports have been sent within the time period specified, as Illinois Central Railroad Company intends to file its Notice of Exemption in the above-captioned matter no earlier than December 1, 2003. All appropriate agencies as listed in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e) have been consulted well in advance of preparing the Environmental Report.

I also certify that a newspaper notice was published on August 13, 2003, in the *Mobile Register*, a newspaper of general circulation in Mobile County, Alabama. The notices alerted the public to the proposed abandonment, to possible reuse alternatives, and to procedures for participating in the STB proceeding. A copy of the notice is attached to this certificate as Attachment B.

Dated this 11th day of November, 2003.

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

Mr. John Pafenbach  
Administrator  
County of Mobile  
205 Government Street  
Mobile, AL 36644-1001

Mr. Charles E. Harden  
Mayor  
City of Prichard  
P.O. Box 10427  
Prichard, AL 36610

Mr. Joseph McInnes  
Transportation Director  
Alabama Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 303050  
Montgomery, AL 36130-3050

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs  
Coastal Programs Office  
1208 Main Street  
Daphne, AL 36526

Mr. James W. Warr  
Director  
Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management  
P.O. Box 301463  
Montgomery, AL 36130-1463

Mr. Barnett Lawley  
Commissioner  
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
64 N. Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36110

Mr. Berry H. Tew, Jr.  
State Geologist and Director  
Geological Survey of Alabama  
420 Hackberry Lane  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-6999

Alabama Public Service Commission  
Transportation Division, Suite 850  
P.O. Box 304260  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Mr. M. N. Pugh  
Director  
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries  
64 N. Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Mr. J.I. Palmer, Jr.  
Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Mr. Patrick Robbins  
Chief, Legislative and Public Affairs, CESAM-DX  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Mobile District  
P.O. Box 2288  
Mobile, AL 36628-0001

Mr. Ben Malone  
District Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services  
Mobile Service Center  
1070 Schillinger Rd. N  
Mobile, AL 36608-5200

Mr. Sam Hamilton  
Regional Director  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

Dr. Lee H. Warner  
Executive Director  
Alabama Historical Commission  
468 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Mr. Ed Bridges  
Director  
Alabama Department of Archives & History  
P.O. Box 300100  
Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

Mr. William D. Shaddox  
Chief, Land Resources Division  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

State Clearinghouse Officer  
Search turned up Geological Survey of Alabama

Mr. Edward J. McKay  
Chief, Spatial Reference System Division  
National Geodetic Survey  
Nat'l Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
1315 East West Highway, Room 8813  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

Michael J. Barron, Jr.  
Counsel  
Legal Department



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



November 11, 2003

**Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Notice of Exemption for Abandonment—  
Mobile County, Alabama—Docket AB-43 (Sub-No. 175X)**

To Whom It May Concern:

Any time on or after December 1, 2003, Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a railroad line located between milepost 3.67 and milepost 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama. Enclosed is an Environmental Report and a Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and historical effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental and historical analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental and historic review process, please contact their Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), at the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20423-0001, (202) 565-1545, and refer to the above docket number.

IC will file the Environmental Report and Historic Report with the STB on or about November 11, 2003. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to the STB (with a copy to the undersigned) would be appreciated within three weeks. Your comments will be considered by the STB in evaluating the environmental and historical impact of the contemplated action.

If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact the undersigned directly at (312) 755-7954 or by mail at the above address.

Sincerely,

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

Encls.

## ADVERTISING INVOICE - STATEMENT - AFFIDAVIT

**MOBILE REGISTER**

PAGE 1

ACCOUNT NO. 7557617CAN  
PERIOD END 08/13/03NAME L/ILLINOIS CEN C  
REP. 7557

BILL TO SAME

QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL 251-433-1551

L/ILLINOIS CEN CANADIAN NATIO^  
455 NORTH CITYFRONT PLAZA DR  
CHICAGO,, IL 60611-5317

- CURRENT BALANCE
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REFERENCE NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION OR TAG LINE	RATE INCH/CPM	SIZE OR # PG	CHARGES CREDITS	AMOUNT DUE
TGTG01R STARTED 08/13	08/13/03	SURFACE /LEGAL NOTIC TIMES RUN= 1;WORD- PER AD= 329.0		329.0CW	85.54	85.54
		<p><b>LEGAL NOTICE</b> ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY gives notice that on or after September 29, 2003, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments, permitting the abandonment of a 1.03 mile line of railroad between mileposts 3.67 and 4.7 in Prichard, Mobile County, Alabama, which line traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Code 36610. The proceeding will be docketed as AB-43 (Sub No. 175X).</p> <p>The Board's Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration, Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters would be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at (202) 565-1545.</p> <p>Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Commission's Office of Public Assistance at (202) 565-1592. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: Michael J. Barron, Jr. (312) 755-7954 at Illinois Central Railroad Company, 455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, 20th floor, Chicago, IL 60611-5317. Mobile Register August 13, 2003</p>				
		<p><b>Karen Blackard</b> being sworn, says that she is bookkeeper of the MOBILE PRESS REGISTER, INC. which publishes a daily newspaper in the City and County of Mobile, State of Alabama: and the attached notice appeared in the issue of THE MOBILE REGISTER 08/13 - 2003</p> <p><i>Karen Blackard</i> Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of August 2003 <i>Sherrita J. Daniels</i> NOTARY PUBLIC</p> <p>FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS AFFIDAVIT PLEASE CONTACT KAREN BLACKARD AT 219-5413. YOU CAN PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE BY EMAIL OR FAX: LEGALS@MOBILeregister.com OR FAX# 219-5886</p>				
<p><b>WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS</b> <b>MOBILE REGISTER LOCK BOX 496, MOBILE, ALABAMA 36601</b> <b>FOR BILLING INQUIRIES - CALL (251) 433-1551 EXT. 111</b></p>						