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December 8, 2003

VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Mercury Building
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006



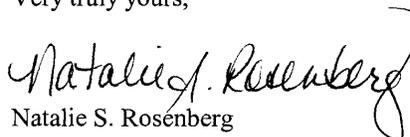
Re: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 579X)** 209579
CSX Transportation, Inc. -
Abandonment in Parke County and Vermillion County, Indiana

Dear Secretary Williams:

By decision served on June 24, 2003, the Board granted CSX Transportation, Inc.'s ("CSXT") request for an extension of the consummation date in the above-captioned abandonment proceeding and allowed for a trail negotiating period that is scheduled to expire on December 26, 2003. Because the parties will be unable to finalize trail negotiations by December 26, 2003, CSXT hereby request an extension on the trail negotiating period and a further extension of the consummation date. Specifically, CSXT requests an extension of the trail negotiating period until June 25, 2004 and extension on the consummation date until August 25, 2004.

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

Very truly yours,


Natalie S. Rosenberg

NSR/pkw

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