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P O Box 131 Center Point, IA., 52213-0131 319-849-1844
 Tom F. Neenana, Executive Director

February 14, 2004

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

Re.: STB AB 33 (Sub No. 143X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

We are requesting 90 days additional time in which to complete negotiations for the acquisition of the soon to be abandoned Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way in Franklin and Cerro Gordo counties in Iowa, a stretch of 12.38 miles between the cities of Belmond and Thornton.

I believe that the Union Pacific Railroad is aware of our continued effort to obtain funds for the purchase of this land and that we are confident that we will be able to finalize these negotiations well within the time period requested.

We are forwarding a copy of this letter to the Omaha and Chicago offices of the Union Pacific Railroad and are sending 10 copies of this letter to the Surface Transportation Board via regular mail this day.

Sincerely,

Tom F. Neenan

Initially by FAX
 Union Pacific RR Omaha
 Union Pacific RR Chicago
 Iowa Department of Transportation

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