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U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

214628

August 30, 2005

Via Overnight Delivery

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

FEE RECEIVED

AUG 31 2005

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD



Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X) Illinois Central Railroad Company—
Abandonment Exemption — in Rankin County, Mississippi

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are an original and ten copies of the Verified Notice of Exemption of Illinois Central Railroad Company dated August 30, 2005 pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50. A check in the amount of \$3,000.00, representing the appropriate fee for this filing, also is enclosed.

One extra copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed as well. Please date stamp this copy to show receipt and return them to me in the enclosed envelope.

The Environmental and Historic Reports for this proceeding have already been filed with the Board. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Encls.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

AUG 31 2005

Part of
Public Record

FILED

AUG 31 2005

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

214628



BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-43 (SUB-NO. 176X)

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY —
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION — IN RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

AUG 31 2005

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50

Part of
Public Record

FILED
AUG 31 2005
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FEE RECEIVED
AUG 31 2005
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
CN
17641 S. Ashland
Homewood, IL 60430
(708) 332-3954

ATTORNEY FOR
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

Dated: August 30, 2005

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-43 (SUB-NO. 176X)

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY —
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION — IN RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50**

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") hereby submits this Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, to abandon its line of railroad between milepost 70.20 and milepost 71.72, a distance of 1.52 miles in Flowood, Rankin County, Mississippi ("Flowood Trackage").

In accordance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2), IC submits the following information:

General Corporation Information: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1)-(2)

IC is a Class I common carrier by rail which owns and operates approximately 2,550 miles of rail line in six Midwestern and south central states. IC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian National Railway Company. The complete name and address of IC is:

Illinois Central Railroad Company
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430

Relief Sought: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(3)

Pursuant to the Board's class exemption for the abandonment of out-of-service rail lines, codified at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, IC intends to abandon its line of railroad between milepost 70.20 and milepost 71.22, a distance of approximately 1.52 miles in Flowood, Rankin County, Mississippi.

Map: 49 C.F.R. § 1152(a)(4)

A map of Flowood Trackage is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

IC's Representative: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(7)

IC's representative to whom correspondence regarding this abandonment should be sent is:

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Illinois Central Railroad Company
c/o CN
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430
(708) 332-3954

ZIP Codes Traversed: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(8)

Flowood Trackage traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Code 39232.

Qualification for Class Exemption: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b)

Per the certificate and verification attached hereto as Exhibit B, IC certifies that no local revenue traffic has moved over Flowood Trackage for at least the last two years, there is no overhead traffic on Flowood Trackage that would have to be rerouted over other lines, and no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on Flowood Trackage (or a state or local governmental entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service on the proposed

abandonment is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant during the last two years.

Consummation Date: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)

IC will not consummate the proposed abandonment any earlier than October 31, 2005.

Suitability for Other Public Purposes: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(e)(4)

The Flowood Trackage right-of-way may be suitable for use as a levee, and the local levee district has expressed an interest. IC does not believe that the right-of-way would be of interest to the State or any other entity as a highway or mass transportation line or other similar public use as Flowood Trackage travels through an already-developed area. A substantial portion of Flowood Trackage appears to be operating rights located on the property of a non-rail third party.

Labor Protection: 49 C.F.R. 1152.50(d)(2)

The level of labor protection applicable in rail line abandonments is that established in *Oregon Short Line Co. — Abandonment — Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

**Certificate of Compliance with Notice Requirements:
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)**

A certificate that the notice of requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152(d)(1) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 have been complied with is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

Environmental and Historic Report: 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8

An Environmental Report and Historic Report, prepared pursuant to C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8, were already filed with the Surface Transportation Board in this proceeding. Since serving those reports, IC has received a number of responses.

The State Clearinghouse for Federal Programs sent an acknowledgement, attached hereto as Exhibit D. IC notes that it contacted the referenced agencies in preparing its Environmental

and Historic Report. The Natural Resources Conservation Service also responded by indicating on correspondence we sent to them, attached as Exhibit E, that the proposed abandonment would have no adverse effects.

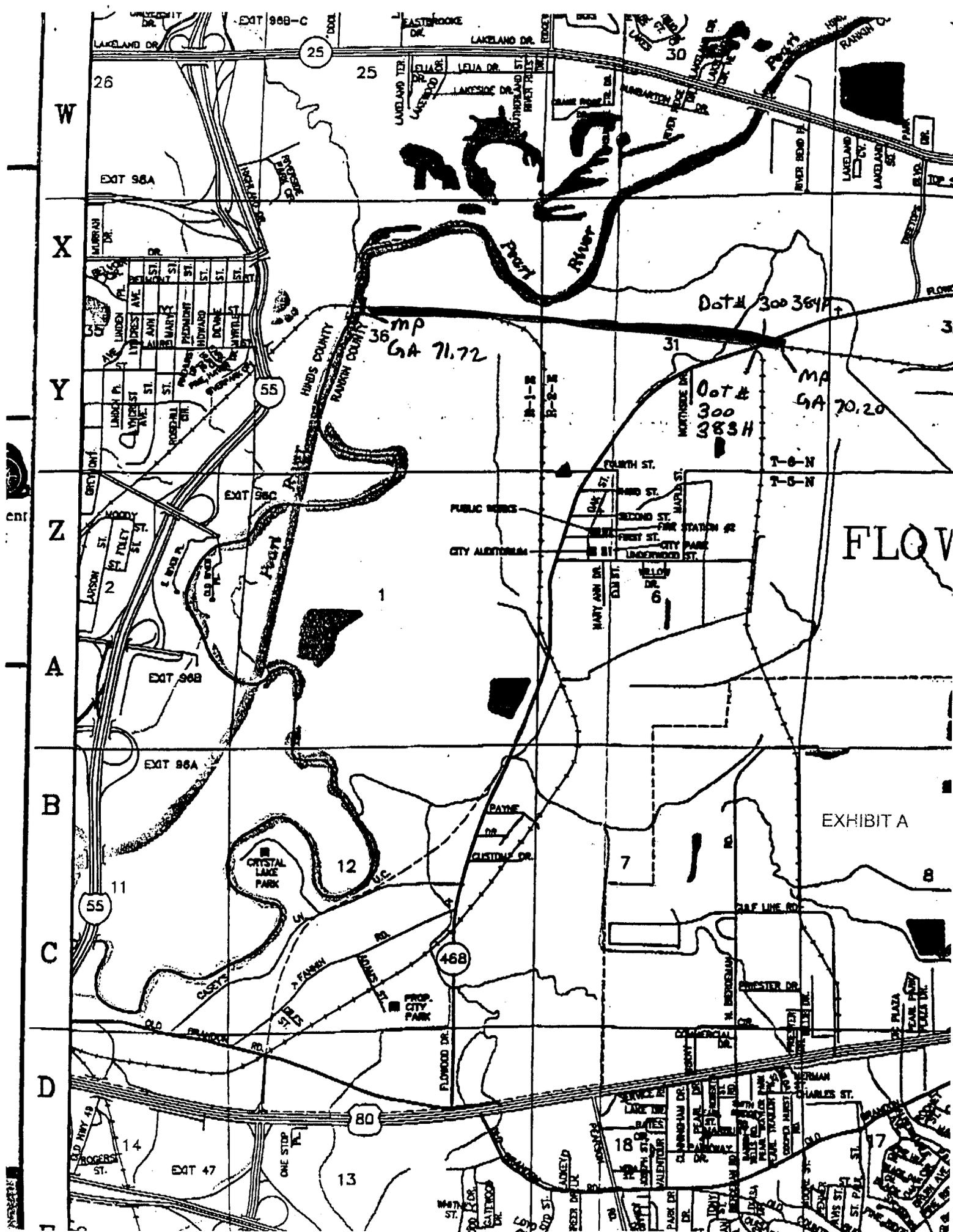
Respectfully submitted,

By 

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
CN
17641 S. Ashland
Homewood, IL 60430
(708)332-3954

Dated: August 30, 2005

ATTORNEY FOR ILLINOIS CENTRAL
RAILROAD COMPANY



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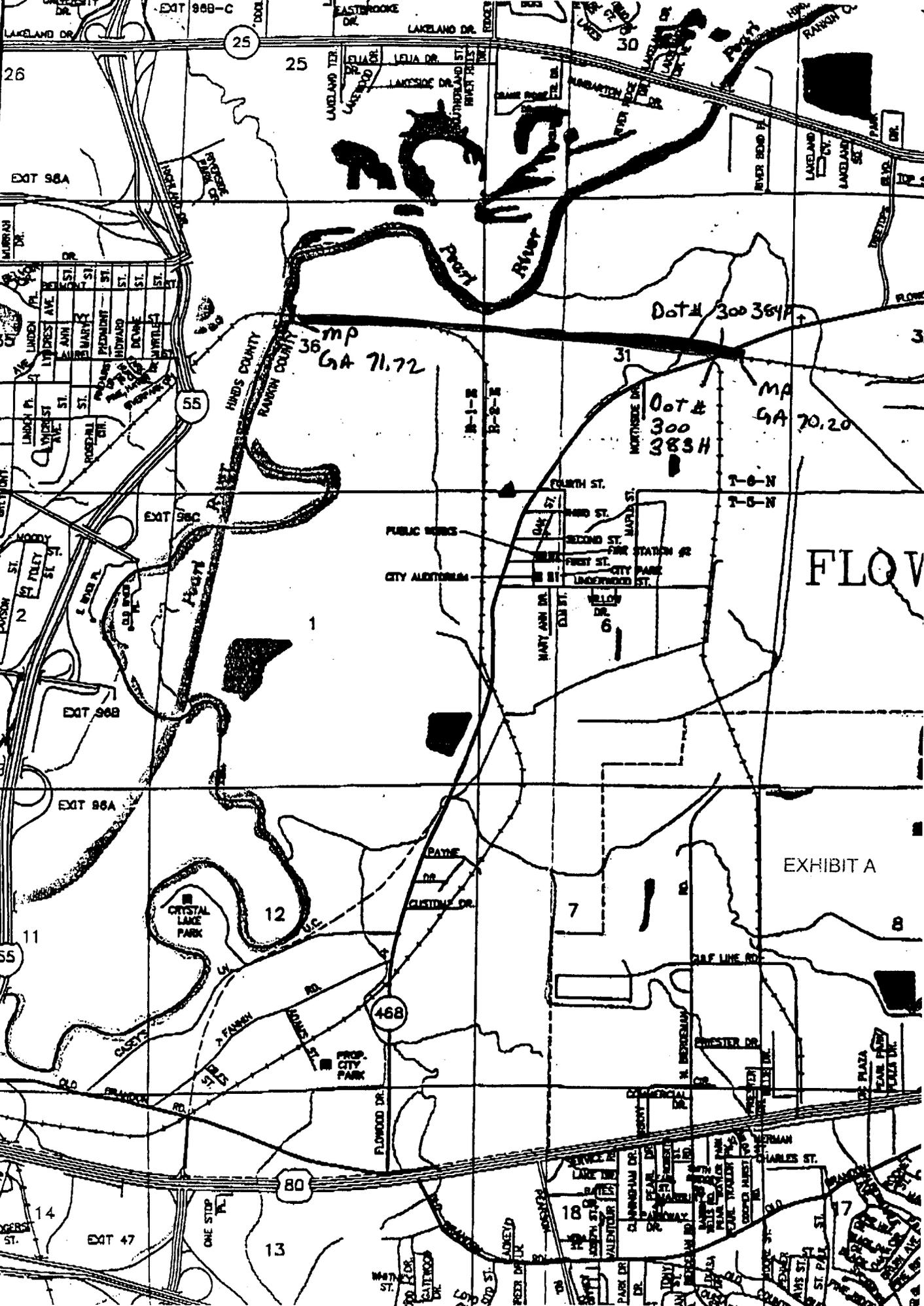
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EXHIBIT A

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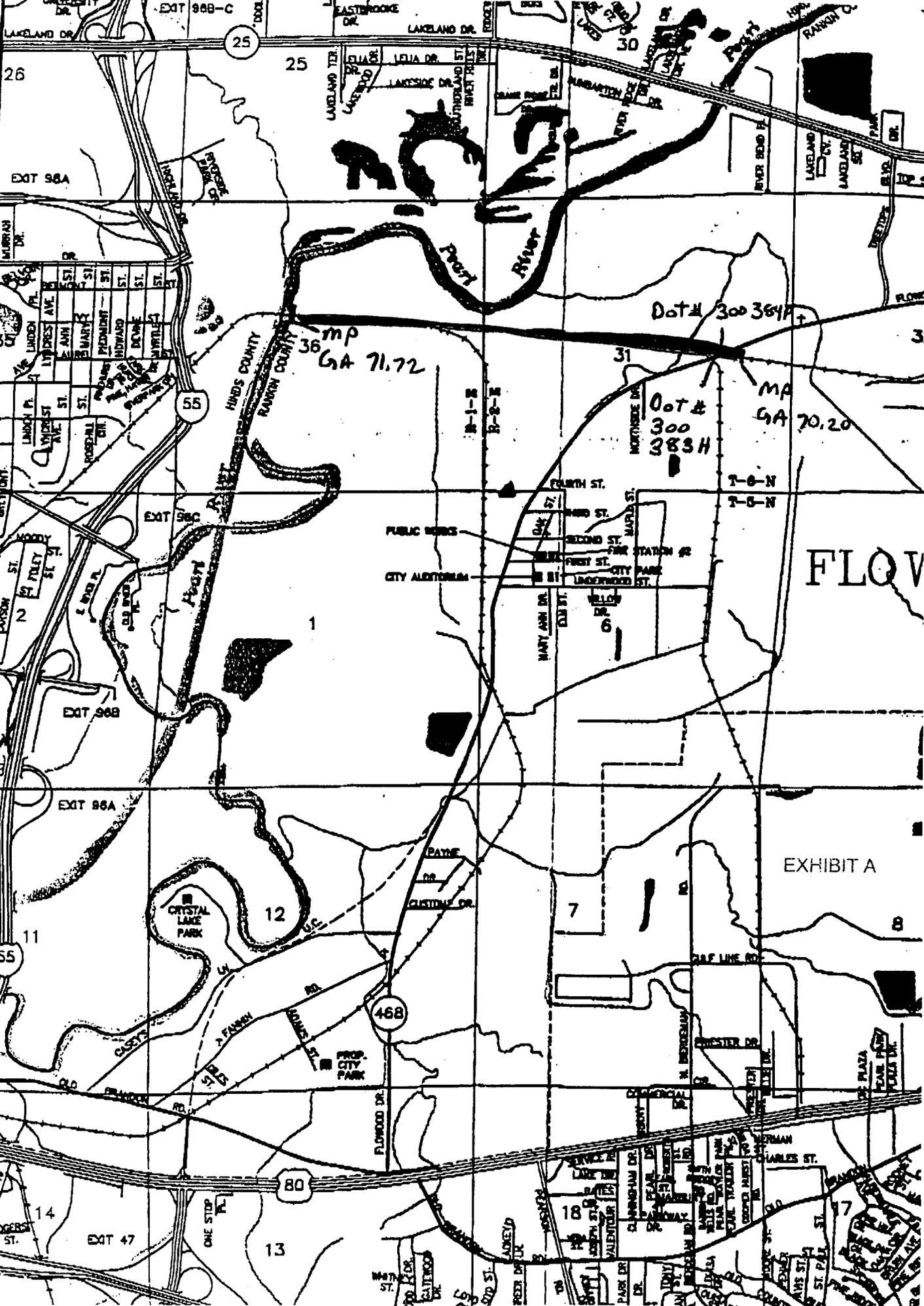
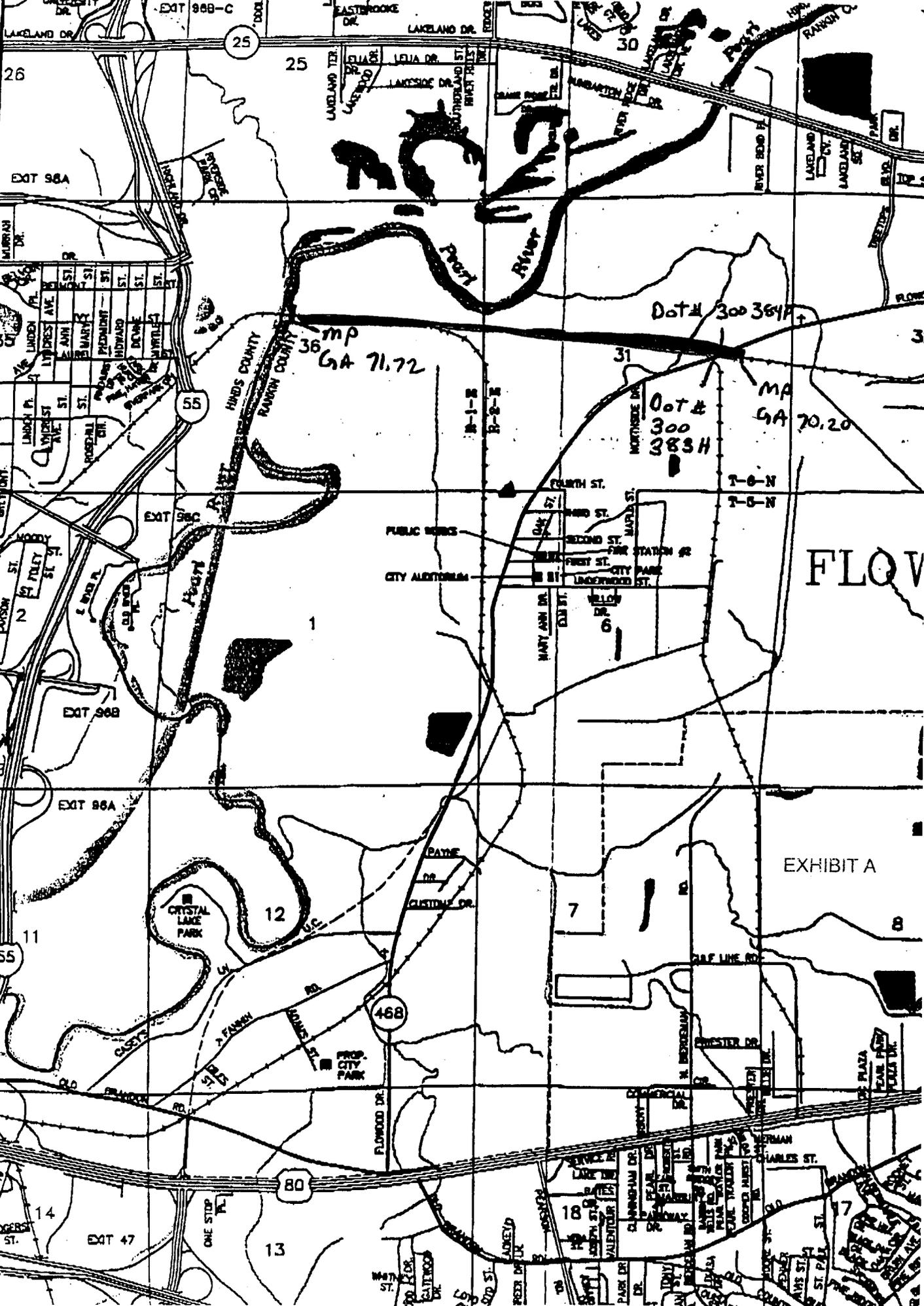
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DOCKET NO. AB-43 (SUB-NO. 176X)

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY — ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION —
IN RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

CERTIFICATE AND VERIFICATION

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss
COUNTY OF COOK)

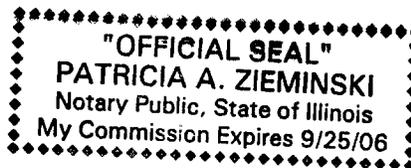
I, Robert M. Wedam, Director Network Strategies for the Illinois Central Railroad Company, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. That no local traffic has moved over the line between milepost 70.20 and milepost 71.72, in Flowood County, Mississippi, for at least two years, and that there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted over other lines; and
2. That no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the subject line (or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line is either pending with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the last two years; and
3. That he has read the foregoing Notice of Exemption, knows the facts therein asserted, and that the same are true as stated.

Robert M. Wedam
Date: 8/30/05

Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 30 day of
August, 2005.

Patricia A. Zieminski
Notary Public

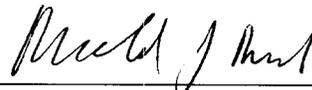


CERTIFICATE

I, Michael J. Barron, Jr., an attorney for Illinois Central Railroad Company, hereby certify that, for the proceeding before the Surface Transportation Board known as Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company — Abandonment Exemption — in Rankin County, Mississippi:

(1) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) have been complied with, to-wit: On August 16, 2005, written notice was mailed to the: (a) United States Department of Defense, MTMCTEA, Attn: Railroads for National Defense; (b) Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; (c) Center for Recreation and Conservation, National Park Service; and (d) Mississippi Department of Transportation (copies of which are attached hereto as Attachments 1-4).

(2) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 have been complied with, to wit: On August 10, 2005, the Environmental Report and Historic Report for this proceeding, which reports have also been filed with the Surface Transportation Board, and the accompanying transmittal letters in the form set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 (a sample of which is attached hereto as Attachment 5) were served by first class mail, postage prepaid, on the parties listed on Attachment 6, as required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b) and § 1105.11.



Michael J. Barron, Jr.

Dated: August 30, 2005



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U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

August 16, 2005

United States Department of Defense
MTMCTEA
Attn: Railroads for National Defense
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606-2574

Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company
Notice of Exemption in Rankin County, Mississippi

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall on or after August 30, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Rankin County, Mississippi starting at milepost 70.20 and ending at milepost 71.72 in Flowood, Mississippi, a distance of approximately 1.52 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 39232.

The exemption procedures set forth in §1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over this line for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on this line can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 1



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U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

August 16, 2005

Mr. Dale Bosworth
Chief, Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company
Notice of Exemption in Rankin County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Bosworth:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall on or after August 30, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Rankin County, Mississippi starting at milepost 70.20 and ending at milepost 71.72 in Flowood, Mississippi, a distance of approximately 1.52 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 39232.

The exemption procedures set forth in §1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over this line for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on this line can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 2



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U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

August 16, 2005

Mr. Thomas Ross
Division Chief
National Center for Recreation and Conservation
1201 Eye Street, N.W., 9th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company
Notice of Exemption in Rankin County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Ross:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall on or after August 30, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Rankin County, Mississippi starting at milepost 70.20 and ending at milepost 71.72 in Flowood, Mississippi, a distance of approximately 1.52 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 39232.

The exemption procedures set forth in §1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over this line for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on this line can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 3



www.cn.ca

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

August 16, 2005

Mr. Marlin D. Collier
Director, Office of Intermodal Planning
Mississippi Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39115-1850

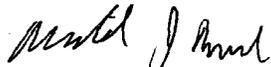
Re: Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company
Notice of Exemption in Rankin County, Mississippi

Dear Collier:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Illinois Central Railroad Company shall on or after August 30, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Rankin County, Mississippi starting at milepost 70.20 and ending at milepost 71.72 in Flowood, Mississippi, a distance of approximately 1.52 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 39232.

The exemption procedures set forth in §1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over this line for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on this line can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 4



www.cn.ca

August 10, 2005

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

Re: Illinois Central Railroad Company Notice of Exemption for Abandonment—Forrest County, Mississippi—Docket AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X)

To Whom It May Concern:

Any time on or after August 30, 2005, 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 70.20 and milepost 71.72, a distance of 1.52 miles, in Flowood, Rankin County, Mississippi. 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 August 10, 2005. 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 (708) 332-3954 or by mail at the above address.

Sincerely,


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

ATTACHMENT 5

Encls.

Mr. Marlin D. Collier
Director, Office of Intermodal Planning
Mississippi Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39115-1850

Mayor Gary Rhoads
City of Flowood
P.O. Box 320069
Flowood, MS 39232

Rankin County Board of Supervisors
221 Government Street
Suite A
Brandon, MS 39042

Mr. Michael E. Lilly
State Soil Conservationist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
100 West Capitol Street, Room 1321
Jackson, MS 39269

Mr. Jerry Brashier
Director of Wetland Permitting
Mississippi Coastal Program
Mississippi Dept of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101
Biloxi, MS 39530

Mr. John H. Hankinson
Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
100 Alabama Street, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30313

Mr. Christopher A. Alonzo
Director, Environmental Programs
Mississippi Dept. of Wildlife,
Fisheries and Parks
1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211-6322

Mr. Curtis B. James
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
6578 Dogwood view Parkway, Suite A.
Jackson, MS 39213

Ms. Cynthia Rickis-Gordon
Environmental Biologist
Mississippi Natural Heritage Program
Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
2148 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202-1353

Mr. James I. Palmer, Jr.
Executive Director
Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 20305
Jackson, MS 39289-1305

Ms. Elizabeth S. Guynes
Chief, Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
Vicksburg District, Operations Division
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39280-3435

Mr. Michael F. McNair, R.F
Team Leader, Permit Section
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
Vicksburg District, Operations Division
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39280-3435

Mr. Thomas H. Waggener
Review and Compliance Officer
Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History
Historic Preservation Division
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

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

Ms. Debra D. Archie
Project Manager, Permitting Section
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
Mobile District, P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

Ms. Deb Biggers, Director
501 N. West Street, Suite 1301E
Mississippi Dept. of Finance and Administration
Office of Budget and Fund Management
Jackson, MS 39201

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

EO 12372.
WEEKLY LOG
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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS

DATE 08/04/05
08/17/05

MS APPLICANT NO.: MS050816-009R
IMPACT AREA(S): RANKIN

APPLICANT:
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO.

CONTACT: MICHAEL J. BARRON, JR.
PHONE: (708) 332-3954

17641 S. ASHLAND AVE.
HOMewood IL 60430

FEDERAL AGENCY: US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

FUNDING: FEDERAL
LOCAL
TOTAL

APPLICANT
OTHER

STATE
PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION: INTENT TO FILE A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION SEEKING AUTHORITY TO
ABANDON RAILROAD LN. LOCATED IN FLOWOOD, RANKIN COUNTY,
MS. TO BE FILED ON OR AFTER AUG. 30, 2005.

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER

1301 WOOLFOLK BLDG., SUITE E - JACKSON, MS 39201 (601) 359-6762

- THIS IS AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ONLY -

STATE AGENCIES MUST REVIEW CERTAIN PROPOSALS PRIOR TO RECEIVING MISSISSIPPI INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS CLEARANCE. THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY REVIEWS ANY PROPOSALS INVOLVING CONSTRUCTION, SUCH AS A HIGHWAY OR AN APARTMENT COMPLEX FOR COMPLIANCE WITH CULTURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION. MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL, REVIEWS APPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT. THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES REVIEWS APPLICATIONS FOR CONSISTENCY WITH THE COASTAL PROGRAM.

IF APPLICATIONS ARE FOR PROJECTS OF LOCAL IMPACT, THEY SHOULD BE SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AT THE SAME TIME. PLEASE NOTE THAT ONE OF OUR REQUIREMENTS IS THE USE OF STANDARD FORM 424. THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION PREPARES AND DISTRIBUTES A WEEKLY LOG LISTING PERTINENT INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS FORM. OUR ADDRESS IS 1301 WOOLFOLK BLDG., SUITE E - JACKSON, MS 39201 AND OUR PHONE NUMBER IS (601)359-6762.

EXHIBIT D



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August 10, 2005

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

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

Re: Environmental Report, Historic Report and Required Certifications for
Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company.—
Notice of Exemption for Abandonment in Rankin County, Mississippi

Dear Secretary Williams:

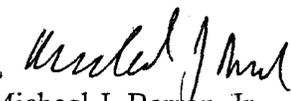
Illinois Central Railroad Company intends on filing a Notice of Exemption for the above-referenced proposed abandonment any time on or after August 30, 2005. Enclosed for the above-referenced Abandonment Exemption are the following, which are required by 49 C.F.R. Part 1105:

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, we conclude that the proposed abandonment is outside a coastal area, 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

*This project does not
propose any adverse effects.*

Michael E. Lilly

Michael E. Lilly
State Soil Scientist

Encls.

EXHIBIT E