



215380



December 16, 2005

VIA UPS NEXT DAY AIR

Mr. Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" Street, N.W., Room 504
Washington, DC 20423-0001

DEC 19 2005
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DEC 19 2005
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**RE: Docket No. AB-33(Sub-No.225X), Union Pacific Railroad Company
Abandonment of the Thornton Industrial Lead from Milepost 2.0 near Flint
to Milepost 17.14 near Thornton, a distance of 15.14 miles in Cerro Gordo
County, Iowa**

Dear Mr. Williams:

Union Pacific Railroad Company ("Union Pacific") has received a second request from the Iowa Trails Council seeking the issuance of a Certificate or Notice of Interim Trail Use pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d) and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29 regarding that portion of the Union Pacific's right-of-way known as the Thornton Industrial Lead from Milepost 2.0 near Flint, Iowa to Milepost 17.14 near Thornton Iowa, a distance of 15.14 miles in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. The Union Pacific is willing to continue negotiating with the Iowa Trails Council concerning the acquisition of the subject property for trail use and supports the Council's request for extension to negotiate for a period of 180 days. A copy of the Iowa Trails Council's request is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and hereby made a part hereof.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter with exhibits are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures

cc: Iowa Trails Council



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



ITC Board Members

- Joy Adams, Monticello
- Pleury Bates, Cedar Rapids
- Don Benson, Clive
- Kate Castek, Orange
- Eldon Colton, Hiawatha*
- Terry Dahms, Iowa City*
- Doane Eldred, Urbana*
- Jon Fagre, Ames
- Joseph Galloway, Des Moines*
- Stephen Garst, Coon Rapids
- Howard Hammond, Slater
- Diane Handler, Cedar Rapids
- Lynn Hudecek, Cedar Rapids
- Robert LaGrange, Vinton*
- David Lyon, Mt. Vernon*
- Tom Neenan, Center Point*
- Maureen Neenan, Center Point
- James Rathe, Waverly
- John Rice, Bettendorf
- Dwight Saunders, Des Moines
- Alice Schuler, Des Moines
- Dick Siefers, Iowa City*
- Jerry Tempel, Waterloo*
- Gregory Vitale, Ames

*Executive Committee

Advisory Board:

- Dorene Bollman, LaClaire
- Robert Chadima, Cedar Rapids
- Douglas Cherver, Dubuque
- Lavona Colton, Hiawatha
- Clive Cook, Marion
- Kathy Cuddeback, Brighton
- Marvin Diemer, Cedar Falls
- Roy Ewen, Cedar Rapids
- Dan Gerken, Waterloo
- Richard George, Mt. Vernon
- Samuel Gooden, Dike
- E. Rees Hakanson, Boone
- Mary Lou Hattery, Cedar Rapids
- Marilyn Magid, Cedar Rapids
- Chuck Offenburger, Storm Lake
- David Olson, Carroll
- David Osterberg, Mt. Vernon
- Keith Peterson, Panora
- Donald Thomas, Cedar Rapids
- Rick Young, Waterloo
- Hank Zaletel, Nevada
- Frank Zigrang, Humboldt

December 15, 2005

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" St. NW
Washington, D. C., 20423

Dear Mr. Williams:

Reference is made to AB 33 (225X), which is the proposed abandonment of Union Pacific rail corridor between Mason City and Thornton in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa.

We have been granted the right to negotiate to acquire this corridor for the purpose of establishing a trail in an interim period prior to possible reactivation of rail service.

We have not been able to finalize negotiations for this acquisition and therefore are requesting that a second period of 180 days be granted for this purpose. We believe that the Union Pacific Railroad concurs in the granting of this additional time in which to conclude these negotiations.

We are forwarding a copy of this request to the Union Pacific offices in Omaha and Chicago and are asking them to notify you of this concurrence.

We thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom F. Neenan

