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SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.
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December 21, 2005



Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 409X), BNSF Railway Company --Abandonment Exemption-- in Reynolds, NE, in Jefferson, Thayer, and Nuckolls Counties, NE, and Republic County, KS

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) previously filed a petition for exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon and discontinue service over a 39.95-mile line of railroad between from milepost 167.78 near Superior, NE, to milepost 127.83 near Reynolds, NE, in Jefferson, Thayer, and Nuckolls Counties, NE, and Republic County, KS. Notice of the petition was served and published in the Federal Register (69 FR 23250-51) on April 28, 2004. By decision served on July 27, 2004, the Board granted the exemption.

By decision served on May 10, 2005, the Board granted BNSF's request for an extension of time to file a notice of consummation until December 31, 2005. Winter weather conditions have hampered the ability to conduct salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation date until July 1, 2006.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

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

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sidney L. Strickland, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
SLS/cac

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cc: James Gallegos
Jerry Johnson
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