

Freeborn & Peters LLP

January 5, 2006

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

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

215502

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 435X); Docket No. AB-987X; The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company Abandonment of Albany, Illinois

Attorneys at Law

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215503

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed are ten copies plus the original affidavit of publication the *Sauk Valley Newspapers* regarding the above abandonment. The original Notice of Intent to Abandon has been affixed to the back of the affidavit of publication.

Sincerely,

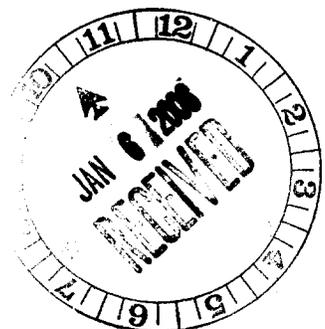


Brian Nettles

Chicago

Springfield

/bn
Enclosures



No. 4785

Certificate of Publication

State of Illinois SS.

Whiteside County

This is to Certify that a notice, a true copy of which is hereto attached, was published in the Daily Gazette, a secular newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Sterling, in the County of Whiteside and State of Illinois, by SAUK VALLEY NEWSPAPERS, a corporation existing under the laws of said State, once each week for 1 successive week(s); that the date of the first paper containing said notice was the 21st day of November, 2005, and that the date of the last paper containing said notice was the 21st day of November, 2005

And this is to further certify that said newspaper have been regularly published for one year prior to the first publication of said notice therein, and that the person who signs the name of said company to this certificate is as appears by the records of said company, it is duly authorized agent for such purpose

Dated at Sterling, in said county, This 22nd day of November, 2005

Publication Fee \$82.40

Daily Gazette

by: *Kathleen Sheridan*
Authorized Agent

Received payment
Daily Gazette

by: _____



**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ABANDON**

The BNSF Railway Company and the Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Corporation gives notice that on or after December 7, 2005, they intend to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, an abandonment notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments, permitting the abandonment of or discontinuance of service on 5.09 miles of railroad line between railroad milepost M.P. M.P. 20.31 to M.P. 25.40 near Albany, Illinois, which line segment traverses through United States Postal Zip Codes 61230, 61242 and 61252 in Rock Island County, Illinois and Whiteside County, Illinois. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-0 (Sub-No. 434X) and AC-0877.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) which will normally be available 25 days after the date of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and other matters should be filed DIXON later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be considered in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001 or by calling that office at 202-565-1538.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trail use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001 (see 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1105.1). One copy must be served on applicant's representative (see 49 CFR 1104.12(a)). Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Public Services at 202-565-1592. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative Michael Smith, Freeborn & Peters, 311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6677. Telephone (312)360-6724.

November 21, 2005