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Mack H. Shumate, Jr.  
Senior General Attorney, Law Department

April 3, 2006



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Office of the Secretary  
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**Via UPS Over-Night Delivery**

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

**Re: Docket No. Ab-33(Sub-No. 153X) - Union Pacific Railroad Company -  
- Abandonment Exemption - in Monroe County, IA (Oskaloosa  
Subdivision between Eddyville, IA and Maxon, IA)**

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Union Pacific Railroad Company ("Union Pacific") has received a fifth request from the Iowa Trails Council for an 180-day extension in which to complete negotiations for the acquisition of that portion of the Union Pacific's right-of-way in Monroe County, Iowa between Milepost 315.0 and 322.9 for an interim recreational trail. The Union Pacific is willing to continue to negotiate with the Iowa Trails Council concerning the acquisition of the subject property for interim recreational trail use and supports the Iowa Trails Council's request for an extension of the negotiation period for 180-days commencing April 5, 2006. A copy of the Iowa Trails Council's request dated March 27, 2006 is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and hereby made a part hereof.

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

Very truly yours,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

Enclosures

cc: Tom F. Neenan,  
Iowa Trails Council

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

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March 27, 2006

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

Ref. AB 33 ( Sub No. 153X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

We are asking for an additional period of time (180 days) in which to complete negotiations for the acquisition of the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way commonly referred to as the southern segment of the Oskaloosa Subdivision, between Mileposts 315.1 and 322.9 in Monroe County, Iowa.

Negotiations with the Union Pacific Railroad are nearing completion and are expected to be finalized well within the 180 day time period requested. The Iowa Department of Transportation has joined us in these negotiations and the Department is expected to take title when the negotiations are completed. At that time the Department will file a statement of Willingness to Assume Responsibility, if required to do so.

The Union Pacific has not gone through the abandonment procedure and has verbally committed to continuing these negotiations. We are sending a copy of this letter to both the Chicago and Omaha offices of the Union Pacific Railroad, asking that they notify you of their agreement to continue these negotiations.

We are also forwarding 10 copies of this letter to the Surface Transportation Board.

Sincerely,

Tom F. Neenan

