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December 12, 2006

**VIA FACSIMILE (202) 565-9019
& FEDERAL EXPRESS**

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

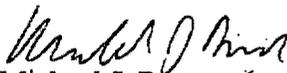


Re: **Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 176X), Illinois Central Railroad Company—
Abandonment Exemption—in Rankin County, Mississippi**

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed is an original and ten copies of a petition to extend the consummation due date in the above-referenced docket. Please call me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


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

MJB: arw

Enclosures.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
DEC 13 2006
Part of
Public Record

218272

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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



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

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE NOTICE OF CONSUMMATION

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ATTORNEY FOR
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

Dated: December 12, 2006

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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



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

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE NOTICE OF CONSUMMATION**

INTRODUCTION

Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") has authority, 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"). IC filed a Notice of Consummation for that portion of Flowood Trackage from Milepost 70.30 to 71.72 on August 18, 2006. The Notice of Consummation for the remaining portion on the far eastern end, Milepost 70.20 to Milepost 70.30, is due December 31, 2006. However, for the reasons set forth herein and pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1129(e)(2), IC needs an extension of the date by which to file a Notice of Consummation for the far eastern end of Flowood Trackage.

REASONS IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST

Attached as Exhibit A is a map of Flowood Trackage. As discussed in previously filed pleadings there is a north-south line known as the East Jackson Spur that connects just inside the abandonment limit at milepost 70.20. Trains traveling along the East Jackson Spur use the

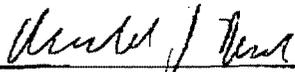
connection to serve a customer located on the line immediately east of the abandonment limit. IC shall relocate the connection so that the East Jackson Spur will connect to track outside, or east, of the abandonment limit of milepost 70.20. Therefore, trains will continue to use the East Jackson Spur and will continue to serve the customers located on the line just east of the abandonment limit.

As part of this relocated connection project, two at-grade crossings will be eliminated. Because of the safety benefits of the grade crossing eliminations, the State of Mississippi is providing funds to relocate the connection. Consistent with state and IC policy and practices, IC will not begin the relocation until the funding agreement with the State is fully executed. IC had received agreements from the State for signature, but they required corrections. IC is currently waiting for the State to tender corrected copies for signature. In addition, the onset of winter may delay the project. Therefore, IC will not be able to complete the connection relocation by December 31, 2006. IC would like to have the connection relocated prior to consummating the abandonment on the far eastern portion of Flowood Trackage.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

For the reasons set forth herein, IC respectfully requests that the STB extend the due date for filing the Notice of Consummation for that portion of Flowood Trackage from Milepost 70.30 to Milepost 70.20 until June 30, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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ATTORNEY FOR ILLINOIS CENTRAL
RAILROAD COMPANY

Dated: December 12, 2006

