



# City of Flora, Illinois

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City Hall Building

131 East Second Street  
PO Box 249  
62839

Bob Tackitt, Mayor

Commissioners

Ed McCormick  
Norman Henderson  
Brent Burgess  
Dan McKinnon

219630



Mr Vernon A Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re CSX Abandonment in Clay County, Illinois. STB Docket Number AB-55 (sub-no.678x).

Dear Mr. Williams.

This request is filed on behalf of the City of Flora, Illinois which is a municipal corporation, which is hereinafter referred to as 'proponent'.

While not taking a position on the merits of this abandonment, proponent requests issuance of a Public Use Condition as well as a Certificate or Notice of Interim Trail Use rather than an outright abandonment authorization between Railroad Milepost BXO 74.14 to Railroad Milepost BXO 75 0, a distance of 0.86 miles known as the Flora North Branch, City of Flora, Clay County, Illinois (the "Line").

### A. Public Use Condition

Proponent requests the STB to find that this property is suitable for other public use, specifically trail use, and to place the following conditions on the abandonment:

1 An order prohibiting the carrier from disposing of the corridor, other than the tracks, ties and signal equipment, except of public use on reasonable terms. The justification for this condition is that the corridor would make an excellent recreational trail and conversion of the property to trail use is in accordance with local plans. The time-period sought is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization. Proponent needs this much time because we have not had an opportunity complete a trail plan and commence negotiations with the carrier.

### B. Interim Trail Use

The railroad right-of-way in this proceeding is suitable for rail banking. In addition to the public use conditions sought above, Proponent also makes the following request

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

JUN 26 2007

Part of  
Public Record

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

**STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U S C §1247(d), and 49 C.F.R. §1152.29, the City of Flora, Illinois is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of (unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability), and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned by CSX.

The property, known as the Flora North Branch extends from railroad milepost BXO 74.14 to railroad milepost BXO 75 0 a distance of 0.86 miles in Clay County, IL. The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad proposed for abandonment in STB Docket No. AB-55 (sub-no 678x).

A map depicting the right-of-way is attached.

The City of Flora acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service.

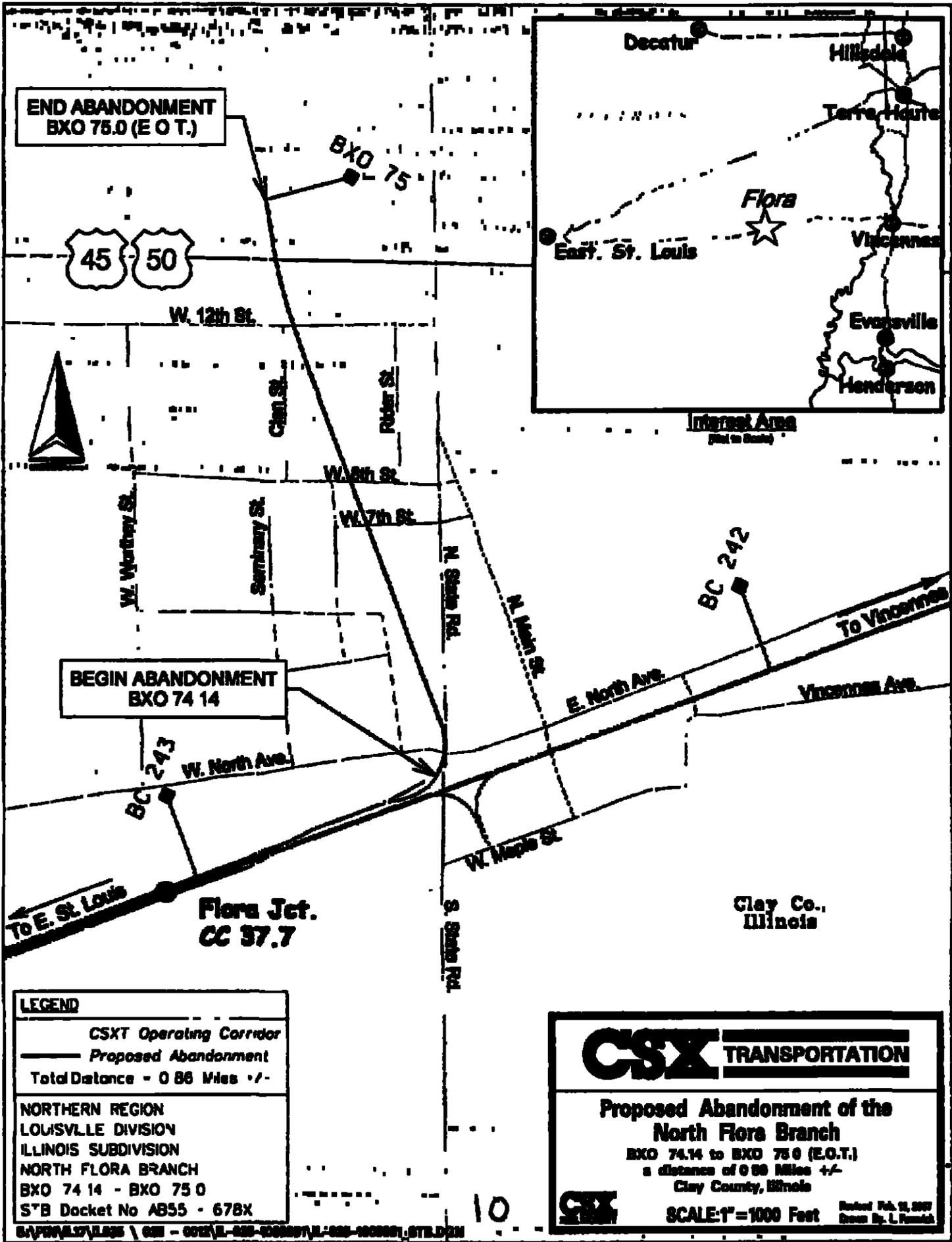
By my signature below, I certify service on June 18, 2007 upon

Steven C. Armbrust  
CSX Transportation, Inc.  
500 Water St., J-150  
Jacksonville, Florida, 32202 (fax: 904-245-3357)

Respectfully submitted,



The Honorable Robert Tackitt  
Mayor  
On behalf of The City of Flora, Illinois



**END ABANDONMENT  
BKO 75.0 (E O T.)**

**45 50**

**BKO 75**

W. 12th St.



Clay St.

Robert St.

W. 8th St.

W. 7th St.

W. Winfrey St.

Seminary St.

N. State Rd.

N. Main St.

BC 242

E. North Ave.

To Vincennes

Vincennes Ave.

**BEGIN ABANDONMENT  
BKO 74.14**

BC 243

W. North Ave.

W. Maple St.

To E. St. Louis

**Flora Jct.  
CC 37.7**

S. State Rd.

Clay Co.  
Illinois

**LEGEND**

CSXT Operating Corridor  
Proposed Abandonment  
Total Distance - 0.86 Miles +/-

NORTHERN REGION  
LOUISVILLE DIVISION  
ILLINOIS SUBDIVISION  
NORTH FLORA BRANCH  
BKO 74.14 - BKO 75.0  
STB Docket No AB55 - 678X

**CSX TRANSPORTATION**

**Proposed Abandonment of the  
North Flora Branch**  
BKO 74.14 to BKO 75.0 (E.O.T.)  
a distance of 0.86 Miles +/-  
Clay County, Illinois

**SCALE: 1" = 1000 Feet**

Revised Feb. 22, 2007  
Drawn By: L. Hamish