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July 6, 2007

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 Public Record

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
 Surface Transportation Board
 395 E Street, S.W.
 Washington, DC 20423

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub. No. 439X); BNSF Railway Company—
 Abandonment Exemption—in Bottineau County, ND**

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon approximately 11.90 miles of rail line, extending from milepost 40.10, near Bottineau, to milepost 52.00, near Souris, in Bottineau County, ND. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on July 14, 2006 (71 FR 40190-01). The exemption became effective on August 15, 2006. The present consummation deadline is July 14, 2007.

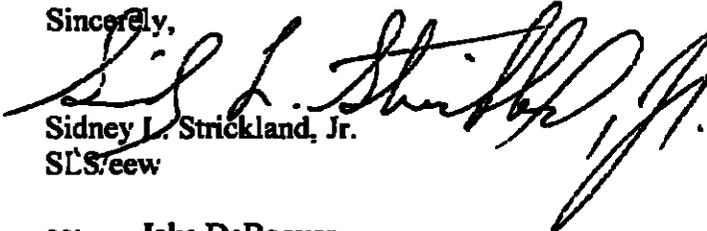
Because BNSF has numerous abandonments currently in process, BNSF has encountered scheduling difficulties with its salvagers. This has led to a delay in the completion of necessary salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation deadline until September 14, 2007.

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) 338-1325.

Sincerely,


 Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
 SLS/cew

cc: Jake DeBoever
 John Sims