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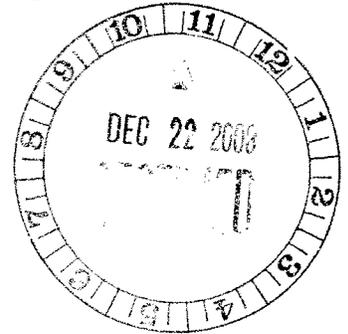
VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

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Public Record

December 18, 2008

Ms. Anne Quinlan, Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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224237



RE: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 435X); BNSF Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption – in Rock Island and Whiteside Counties, IL

Dear Acting Secretary Quinlan:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) and Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Corporation (ICE), jointly filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F - Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service for BNSF to abandon, and ICE to discontinue service over, approximately 5.09 miles of railroad line between milepost 20.31 and milepost 25.40, near Albany, in Rock Island and Whiteside Counties, IL.

By decision served December 27, 2005, the STB granted the exemption authority to abandon effective January 26, 2006. Within that same decision, the STB stated that the abandonment was to be consummated as of December 27, 2006. By STB decision served December 18, 2007, the STB extended the consummation date until December 31, 2008. On April 13, 2006, ICE sent a letter to the STB consummating the discontinuance of service over this line. This letter is to advise the Board that BNSF is consummating the abandonment of the subject line between milepost 20.31 and 22.81, as of the date of this letter. Accordingly, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation deadline until June 30, 2009, for the remainder of the line between milepost 22.81 and 25.40. BNSF is in negotiations with the Village of Albany to possibly purchase the remainder of the line.

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 (817) 352-3394.

Sincerely,

Kristy D. Clark
General Attorney

KC/js

cc: Illinois Commerce Commission
Illinois Department of Transportation
Victoria Rutson, Chief, SEA
Peter Rickershauser
Dennis Eytcheson
Susan Odom
Dalen Wintermute
Steve Kuzma
Rail Services Update