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MICHAEL G. BRESLIN  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

JOSEPH F. PENNISI  
DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY OF ALBANY  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
112 STATE STREET - ROOM 200  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207-2021  
(518) 447-7040 - FAX (518) 447-5589  
WWW.ALBANYCOUNTY.COM

December 5, 2003

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K St., NW, Room 711  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Office of Proceedings

DEC 15 2003

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**Re: Request for Extension - Interim Trail Use/Public Use Conditions  
Delaware & Hudson Railway Company, Inc. d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway  
Abandonment - Albany County, New York  
STB Docket No. AB-156 (Sub-No. 23X)**

Dear Mr. Williams:

Delaware & Hudson Railway Company, Inc. d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway Company filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 9.14 ± mile portion of railroad known as the Albany Main or Voorheesville Running Track between milepost 10.94 ± and milepost 1.8 ± in Albany County New York. On July 8, 2003, the Surface Transportation Board granted a request by Albany County for interim trail use/railbanking and public use conditions. The trail use negotiation period and the public use condition are scheduled to expire on January 12, 2004.

Albany County has held discussions with representatives of Canadian Pacific Railway Company regarding the acquisition of the corridor. Additionally, Albany County has a pending request to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation for funding through the Environmental Protection Fund and Land & Water Conservation Fund to assist in the acquisition. Scenic Hudson Land Trust Inc. is interested in participating in the acquisition of the corridor and has commissioned Pomeroy Appraisals Company of Syracuse New York to conduct an independent appraisal of the corridor.

The appraisal report for the corridor will be completed in late December 2003 at which time formal acquisition negotiations with Canadian Pacific Railway Company can

proceed. A decision on the County's pending grant application to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation is anticipated in early 2004. Therefore, it will not be possible to complete negotiations with Canadian Pacific Railway Company before the January 12, 2004 deadline. Albany County respectfully requests that an additional 180 days (through June 12, 2004) be granted as an extension to complete negotiations with Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Please contact Mark Fitzsimmons, Director of the Albany County Department of Economic Development, Conservation, & Planning at (518) 447-5665 or [mfitzsimmons@albanycounty.com](mailto:mfitzsimmons@albanycounty.com) if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Breslin  
County Executive

Copy to: Diane Gerth Esq., Leonard, Street and Deinard  
Stephen Fisk, Canadian Pacific Railway  
John Dennison, Canadian Pacific Railway  
Seth McKee, Scenic Hudson Land Trust Inc.  
Mark Fitzsimmons, Albany County EDCP