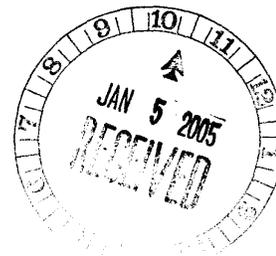


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**VIA FACSIMILE AND
UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL**

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

December 16, 2004

JAN 05 2004

Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Part of
Public Record

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 408X); The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Aurora, Nebraska and Central City, Nebraska

Dear Secretary Williams:

Please reference the Nebraska Trails Foundation's ("NTF") letter dated November 30, 2004, regarding the above-referenced abandonment.

On May 26, 2004, the Board issued a decision in the above-referenced proceeding imposing a Notice of Interim Trail Use/Railbanking ("NITU") condition. The Board imposed a deadline of November 27, 2004 on the NITU. BNSF has not consummated the abandonment. Due to ongoing negotiations with NTF, BNSF concurs with NTF's request for a 60-day extension (until January 26, 2005).

Sincerely,

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

SLS/js

cc: James Gallegos
Richard Batic
Randy Acosta
Ross Greathouse (Nebraska Trails Foundation)