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**BY ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

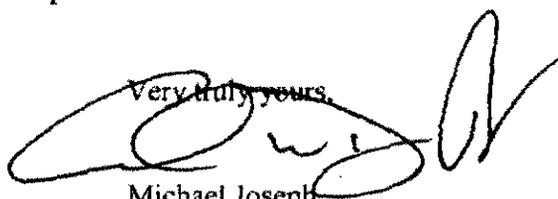
Mr. Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**Re: Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company  
Abandonment Exemption, Docket No. AB996X**

Dear Mr. Williams:

By order served September 19, 2006, in the above-captioned matter, the Board tolled the time period for Reading Anthracite Company ("RAC") to file an offer of financial assistance until September 29, 2006. RAC and Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company ("RBMN") agreed to a tolling of such time period until March 1, 2007, in order to permit negotiations between the parties that would permit the line to remain open. While the parties continue to negotiate, and believe that resolution of this issue is imminent, we request that the period to submit an offer of financial assistance be further tolled an additional 90 days, to May 30, 2007.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. The undersigned is authorized to state that RBMN joins in this request.

Very truly yours,  
  
Michael Joseph  
Andrew W. Dyer, Jr.  
Counsel for Reading Anthracite Company

cc: Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

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