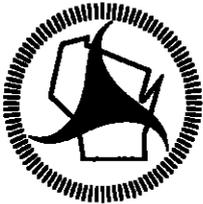


219342



Wisconsin Department of Transportation
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May 15, 2007

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Surface Transportation Board, Room 1324
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



RE **STB Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X) Wisconsin Central LTD.--**
Abandonment Exemption -- In Forest County, WI -- Motion for Extension of Time
to Reach Agreement on a Notice of Interim Trail Use

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed for filing are the original and ten (10) copies of the WisDNR's Motion
for Extension of Time to Reach Agreement on a Notice of Interim Trail Use.

Please date stamp and return the duplicate copy of this transmittal letter in the
prepaid, return mail envelope for verification of receipt. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Allyn Lepeska
Allyn Lepeska
Attorney

Enclosures

pc: Vicki Schaefer
Richard Steffes
Michael Barron

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

AB-303 (SUB-NO. 29X)

WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD –
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION
IN FOREST COUNTY, WISCONSIN



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF NOTICE OF INTERIM TRAIL USE

BACKGROUND

Wisconsin Central Ltd (WCL) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a Notice of Exemption under 49 CFR § 1152 Subpart F – Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 4.62-mile line of railroad, from milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (formerly milepost 249.38 on the Old Shawano Sub) near Crandon, to milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (formerly milepost 254.00 on the Old Shawano Sub). in Forest County, WI. The line traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Code 54520.

On November 10, 2005, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) signed a Statement of Willingness to Accept Financial Responsibility pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29. This statement is for the 4.62 mile segment of WCL railroad starting at MP 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a MP 249.38 on the Old Shawano Sub) and ending at MP 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a on the Old Shawano Sub) near Crandon, Forest County, Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation submitted a request for a notice on interim trail use on behalf of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (collectively, the State).

On November 10, 2005, the Board served a decision on the abandonment exemption subject to conditions. The Board issued a NITU under 49 CFR §1152.29, which was served on December 13, 2005, allowing the WCL until June 11, 2006, to negotiate a rail banking agreement with

WisDNR On January 19, 2006, the Board served a decision removing the section 106 historic preservation condition previously imposed

On May 26, 2006, the State filed a request to extend the NITU negotiating period for an additional 180 days On June 8, 2006, the Board served a decision authorizing the State until December 8, 2006 to negotiate an interim trail use/railbanking agreement with WCL

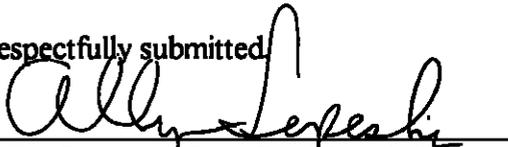
On November 22, 2006, the State filed a request to extend the NITU negotiating period for an additional 180 days On December 8, 2006, the Board served a decision authorizing the State until June 6, 2007 to negotiate an interim trail use/railbanking agreement with WCL.

Negotiations are currently continuing in good faith between WCL and WisDNR However, more time is needed to finalize negotiations

MOTION

Therefore, WisDNR moves that the period prescribed to negotiate an interim trail use/railbanking agreement be extended for 180 days for the 4.62 mile segment of WCL railroad starting at MP 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a MP 249.38 on the Old Shawano Sub) and ending at MP 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a on the Old Shawano Sub) near Crandon, Forest County, Wisconsin for interim trail use and rail banking, pursuant to 16 U S C § 1247(d) and 49 C F R § 1152.29 to the WisDNR This will allow all forms of transportation to be provided in a unified, interconnected, economically efficient, and environmentally sound manner

Respectfully submitted,



Allyn Lepaska, State Bar No 1013474
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of Transportation
5/15/07