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January 21, 2022

BY E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration, Office of
Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Re: AB 167 (Sub-No. 1195X)
Consolidated Rail Corporation - Abandonment Exemption - In Schuylkill &
Carbon Counties, PA
Request for Abeyance

Dear Ms. Brown:

Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad Company ("RBMN") requests that the Board hold this proceeding in abeyance until RBMN is able to confirm that its property interests and operating rights will not be affected by the proposed abandonment.

RBMN is a Class III railroad that owns and operates rail lines in the vicinity of Conrail's Tresckow Branch Line that is the subject of this proceeding; in particular, the Tresckow Branch Line crosses RBMN's Shimer Running Track (sometimes referred to now as the Hazleton Line). RBMN's Shimer Running Track is shown in yellow as the "active lines" on the map attached to the Conrail notice. RBMN acquired the Shimer Running Track in 1992, and has been continuously operating the Hazleton Line since that time. *Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad Company - Acquisition and Operation Exemption- Schuylkill County Rail Transport Authority*, ICC Finance Docket No. 32075 (served July 15, 1992).

RBMN reached out to Conrail on January 4th when it first became aware of the proposed abandonment (RBMN did not receive any direct notice) to discuss the proposed abandonment and to confirm that there would be no adverse effect on RBMN's property interests in the right of way where the Tresckow Branch Line crosses the Shimer Running Track. Conrail provided a contact person on January 20th, and RBMN and Conrail had an initial discussion today. There was no resolution of the issues; Conrail agreed to look further into the concerns and get back to RBMN.

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The Board has already recognized the confusing history of the ownership and operations of the Tresckow Branch Line that is the subject of this proceeding, and has requested that Conrail provide supplemental information to the Board. The Board should further delay its handling of this proceeding and keep the matter in abeyance to allow RBMN time to determine that its property interests at the crossing will not be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment.

Respectfully,

CLARK HILL

/s/ Eric M. Hocky

Eric M. Hocky
*Counsel for Reading Blue Mountain &
Northern Railroad Company*

EMH:e

cc: Michael L. Rosenthal, Counsel for Conrail
Jolene Busher, RBMN