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September 27, 2023

BY E-FILING

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
September 27, 2023
Part of
Public Record

Re: *Complaint and Petition of the National Railroad Passenger Corp. Under 49 U.S.C. § 24308(f)—For Substandard Performance of Amtrak's Sunset Limited Trains 1 and 2 (Docket No. NOR 42175)*

Dear Ms. Brown:

In its Response to the Board's decision served September 12, 2023 ("Decision"), Amtrak notified the Board (at 1) that "the City of New Orleans is the owner of the New Orleans Union Passenger Terminal, which includes the rail yard along with approximately six miles of right-of-way." Amtrak's filing did not clearly state that the City-owned right of way includes the track over which the Sunset Limited service operates between Southport Junction and the New Orleans Union Passenger Terminal. Out of an abundance of caution and for clarity, Illinois Central Railroad Company ("IC") notifies the Board of IC's understanding that the City owns this track.

In 2002, IC obtained trackage rights over City-owned lines, including track "from a connection between [the City's] railroad and IC near Southport Junction interlocking to Union Passenger Terminal" *Ill. Cent. R.R.—Trackage Rights Exemption—The City of New Orleans, LA*, FD 34196, slip op. at 1 (STB served June 7, 2002); see also Verified Notice of Exemption Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1180.2(d)(7), FD 34196, at 2 (filed May 10, 2002) (STB Document ID 205332). To the best of IC's knowledge, the track remains the property of the City, and has continually been used by the Sunset Limited.

Sincerely,

/s/ David A. Hirsh

David A. Hirsh

Counsel for Illinois Central Railroad Company

cc: All Parties of Record