

LAW OFFICES OF
LOUIS E. GITOMER, LLC

246882

LOUIS E. GITOMER
Lou@lgraillaw.com

600 BALTIMORE AVENUE, SUITE 301
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-4022
(410) 296-2250 • (202) 466-6532
FAX (410) 332-0885

December 10, 2018

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
December 10, 2018
Part of
Public Record

MELANIE B. YASBIN
Melanie@lgraillaw.com
410-296-2205

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20423

RE: **Docket No. AB-1073X, Alabama & Florida Railway Co., Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Geneva, Coffee and Covington Counties, Ala.**

Dear Ms. Brown:

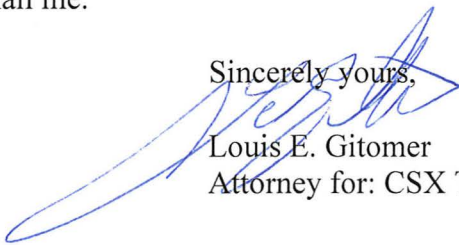
CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) responds to the letter filed October 30, 2018 by the Alabama Trails Commission (“ATC”) seeking an extension of time to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking (copy attached).

As the owner of the real estate underlying the Line, CSXT agrees with the six-month extension of time from October 14, 2018 to April 12, 2019 to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking for the 42.9-mile line of railroad between Andalusia, AL, milepost 581.3, and Geneva, AL, milepost 624.2 (the “Line”). CSXT sold the track and materials and the common carrier obligation to the predecessor of the Alabama & Florida Railway Co., Inc. (“A&F”) while retaining ownership of the real estate and leasing it to A&F. A&F has not consummated the abandonment of the Line. The Amendment to the Conditional Lease dated February 16, 2012 between CSXT and A&F is still effective.

As provided in 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), the extension of the trail negotiation period until April 12, 2019, creates a regulatory barrier to consummation of the abandonment, which provides A&F with an additional 60 days to consummate the abandonment to June 11, 2019, if trail negotiation is unsuccessful. CSXT respectfully requests that the Board confirm that the extension of the consummation period applies in this instance.

CSXT is efilings this response. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours,


Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: CSX Transportation, Inc.

cc: Ms. Rauworth
Mr. LaKemper
Mr. Welsh