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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER
DIRECTOR

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May 14, 2019

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
May 14, 2019
Part of
Public Record

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

Subject: Proposed West Michigan Railroad Co. — Abandonment Exemption in Van Buren
County, MI. —STB Docket No. AB-1107X

Dear Ms. Brown:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hereby respectfully requests an extension of 180 days from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to negotiate trail use over the line (1) between mileposts 19.88 and 25.1, and (2) between mileposts 26.5 and 30.2 in Van Buren County, MI. By decision served on May 10, 2019, the STB established an expiration date for trail use negotiation of May 11, 2019.

The DNR filed a timely request to extend the NITU for 180 days on November 8, 2018. While recognizing the circumstances that led to the late decision served on May 10, 2019, the DNR is now placed in the position of having to make a new request to extend the NITU for another 180 days. This request for an extension is necessary to allow time for the DNR to go through the approval process that requires public notification and placing the transaction on the agenda of the Natural Resources Commission seeking Director approval.

DNR is e-filing this letter. Thank you for your assistance. Should you require further information regarding this request, please contact Mr. Roger Storm, DNR Trail-way Acquisition Specialist, at 517-284-5968; or by writing to P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7948; or you may contact me.

Sincerely,

Matt Lincoln, Land Liaison
Parks and Recreation Division
517-284-6111

cc: Audrey L. Brodrick, Attorney for West Michigan Railroad Co.
Mr. Mark Hoffman, Chief Administration Officer, DNR
Mr. William O'Neill, Natural Resources Deputy, DNR
Ms. Shannon Hanna, Natural Resources Deputy, DNR
Mr. Trevor VanDyke, Director, Legislative & Legal Affairs Office, DNR
Mr. Paul Yauk, State Trails Coordinator, DNR
Mr. Roger Storm, Acquisition Specialist, DNR

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