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February 16, 2017

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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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
February 16, 2017
Part of
Public Record

RE: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 694X), CSX Transportation, Inc.–
*Abandonment Exemption–in McMinn County, TN***

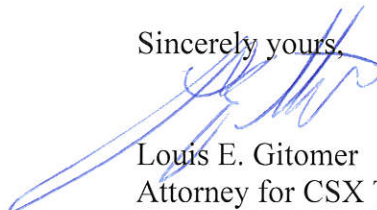
Dear Ms. Brown:

By letter filed February 16, 2017, the City of Athens, TN, on behalf of McMinn County, TN (the “County”) requested that the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”) extend the time period for the County to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking with CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) for a portion of the Southern Region, Huntington-West Division, KD Subdivision between Englewood, milepost OKW 327.0 and milepost OKW 328.47 (the “Line”).

In *CSX Transportation, Inc.-Abandonment Exemption-in McMinn County, Tenn.*, STB Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 694X) (STB served July 27, 2016), the Board extended the period to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking to February 2, 2017. CSXT has not consummated the abandonment of the Line. By this letter, CSXT agrees to an extension of the negotiation period requested by the County until August 1, 2017. As provided in 49 C.F.R. §1152.29(e)(2), the extension of the trail negotiation period until August 1, 2017, creates a regulatory barrier to consummation of the abandonment, which provides CSXT with an additional 60 days to consummate the abandonment to September 30, 2017, if trail negotiation is unsuccessful. CSXT respectfully requests that the Board confirm that the extension of the consummation period as provided in the regulations applies in this instance.

This letter is being efiled. 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: Mr. Fesmire