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February 26, 2018

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-00001

Re: The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
Petition for Declaratory Order - STB Docket FD 36075

Dear Ms. Brown:

This letter responds to the Board's Order of February 5, 2018 seeking a status report from the parties in the above-reference matter by February 26, 2018.

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific jointly file this status report. In their most recent February 2, 2018 status report, the parties advised the Board that they were independently discussing a settlement and asked the Board to allow them to continue their discussions before participating in Board-sponsored mediation. The parties also indicated they believed they had made progress toward settlement of the matter. The parties remain in that belief and seek an additional 30-day period to continue their discussions and work.

Accordingly, the parties agree that any Board-sponsored mediation, if necessary or appropriate, be scheduled to begin no earlier than April 5, 2018 and no later than May 2, 2018, unless otherwise requested by the parties.

Respectfully submitted,

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority
By: Lisa Madigan,
Attorney General, State of Illinois

By: 
Elizabeth M.S. Oplawski
Acting General Counsel

Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a
Canadian Pacific

By: 
David F. Rutkind
Counsel

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this 26th day of February, 2018 served copies of the letter to the Surface Transportation Board executed by representatives of The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and the Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific in response to the Board's Order of February 5, 2018, upon all parties of record in this proceeding via electronic mail or U.S. First Class Mail.

/s/ Elizabeth M.S. Oplawski