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November 1, 2019

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

**Re: Docket No. AB-1107X
West Michigan Railroad Co. – Abandonment Exemption –
In Van Buren County, Mich.**

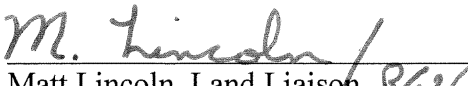
Dear Ms. Brown:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and West Michigan Railroad Co. ("WMI") hereby jointly request a 180-day extension of the negotiation period to permit the parties to reach terms on an interim trails use arrangement concerning the following two railroad line segments that are the subject of this abandonment proceeding: (1) between mileposts 19.88 and 25.1; and (2) between mileposts 26.5 and 30.2, all in Van Buren County, MI.

Pursuant a Director's Order served on July 5, 2019, the current trails use negotiation period is currently scheduled to expire on November 7, 2019. The parties have been engaged actively in discussions concerning trails use terms, and are hopeful that mutually-acceptable terms may be reached in the near term. The requested extension will facilitate such efforts.

Should you require further information regarding this request, please contact Mr. Roger Storm, DNR Trailway Acquisition Specialist, at 517-284-5968; or by writing to P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7948, or the undersigned counsel for WMI.

Respectfully submitted,


Matt Lincoln, Land Liaison
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parks and Recreation Division


Robert A. Wimbish
Attorney for West Michigan Railroad Co.

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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown

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cc: All parties of record
Mr. Mark Hoffman, Chief Administration Officer, 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, DNR