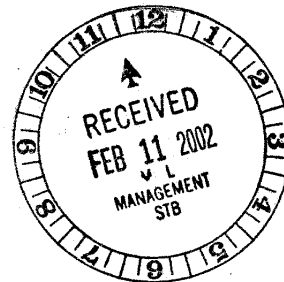


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November 13, 2001

The Honorable Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: STB Docket No. AB-471 (Sub-No. 4X), South Kansas and
Oklahoma Railroad Company - Abandonment Exemption - In
Crawford, Wilson, Elk and Greenwood Counties, KS and Osage
and Tulsa Counties, OK

Dear Secretary Williams:

The South Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad Company ("SKO") filed a notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50, to abandon, among other lines, a 6-mile rail line located between milepost 359.0, at Pittsburg, KS, and milepost 365.0, at Cherokee, KS (the "Line").

On October 3, 2000, the City of Pittsburg ("City") filed a request for issuance of a notice of interim trail use ("NITU"), under the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1247 (d), and for a public use condition under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 for the Line. By decision served November 29, 2000, the Surface Transportation Board ("Board") issued a NITU authorizing negotiations until May 29, 2001.

BE: [Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

Secretary Vernon Williams
November 13, 2001
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The City inadvertently failed to seek an extension of the NITU. The City and SKO are continuing to negotiate an interim trail use/rail banking agreement, and therefore the City respectfully requests a retroactive extension of the original NITU until December 31, 2001. See *Birt v. STB*, 90 F.3d 580, 589 (D.C. Cir. 1996) (Board may grant a retroactive extension of CITU).

Sincerely,

THE CITY OF PITTSBURG



Garry Lassman
Mayor

cc: City Commissioners
Ed McKechnie, WATCO
John Kennedy, Director of Parks & Recreation