



CITY OF HOUSTON

Office of the Mayor

Lee P. Brown

Mayor

P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562
901 Bagby, 3rd Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

T. 713.247.2200
F. 713.247.1067
www.cityofhouston.gov

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January 30, 2002

Chairman Linda J. Morgan
Surface Transportation Board
Department of Transportation
1425 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34079

Dear Chairman Morgan:

On behalf of a number of constituents and neighborhood groups, I am writing to request that you extend the time for comments on the draft scope of the environmental impact statement (EIS) on the above-referenced matter for 60 days, to April 1, 2002. The thorough analysis of the potential impacts of the Bayport Loop Build-Out railroad through the EIS process is critical to your approval process. Therefore, allowing all interested persons adequate time to participate in defining the scope of the EIS will assure that potential concerns are properly addressed in the EIS.

The City intends to provide comments to the STB by February 1 identifying ways in which the scope of the EIS should be expanded. Notwithstanding this, we support the enlargement of time for other interested parties to meaningfully participate in the scoping process. We appreciate your consideration in this regard.

Sincerely,

Lee P. Brown
Mayor

LPB:AWH:DFM:dfm

C: Council Member Shelley Sekula-Rodriguez, M.D.
Council Member Carroll Robinson
Dana White, Surface Transportation Board, Section of Environmental Analysis

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 30th day of January, 2002, I have caused to be served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, or a more expeditious means, a true and correct copy of the foregoing letter to the following parties of record in STB Finance Docket Case No. 34079.



Anthony W. Hall, Jr.

Richard E. Wiecher
Sarah Whitley Bailiff
The Burlington Northern and
Santa Fe Railway Company
2500 Lou Menk Drive
Third Floor
Forth Worth, TX 76131-0039

Erika Z. Jones
Robert M. Jenkins, III
Adrian L. Steel, Jr.
Kathryn A. Kusske
Mayer, Brown and Platt
1909 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

Martin W. Bercovici
Keller and Heckman LLP
1001 G Street NW, Suite 500 West
Washington, DC 20001

J. Michael Hemmer
Covington and Burling
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Richard J. Schiefelbein
Woodharbor Associates
7801 Woodharbor Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76179-3047

Mr. Jerry L. Martin
Director, Rail Division
Texas Railroad Commission
P.O. Box 12967
Austin, TX 78711-2967

Mr. John W. Johnson, Chairman
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

William W. Whitehurst, Jr.
W.W. Whitehurst and Associates, Inc.
Economic Consultants
12421 Happy Hollow Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030-1711