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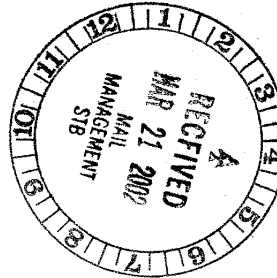
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March 21, 2002



Honorable Vernon A. Williams
 Secretary
 Surface Transportation Board
 1925 K Street, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: *New York City Economic Development Corporation, Acting on Behalf of the City of New York, New York - - Adverse Abandonment of Rail Line and Facilities Operated by the New York Cross Harbor Railroad, Inc. in Brooklyn, New York, Docket No. AB No. 596*

Dear Sir:

This is to request that the Board hold this proceeding in abeyance for a period of sixty (60) days while the applicant, New York City Economic Development Corporation (acting on behalf of the City of New York, New York) ("NYCEDC") engages in discussions with the New York Cross Harbor Railroad, Inc. ("NYCH") about potential solutions to the issues raised in this proceeding. Counsel for NYCH has authorized me to state that this is a joint request. If this request would necessitate a waiver of the 110-day decision date set forth in 49 C.F.R. §1152.26(a), NYCEDC and NYCH hereby jointly request such a waiver.

The parties will notify the STB of the status of these discussions at the conclusion of the sixty (60) day period.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Spitulnik / *[Signature]*

Charles A. Spitulnik

cc: Mr. Seth Kaye, NYCEDC
 John Heffner, Esquire, Counsel for NYCH
 All parties of record in this proceeding

ENTERED
 Office of the Secretary

MAR 22 2002

Part of
 Public Record