

SEP 09 2003



Part of
Public Record



208875

September 8, 2003

Mr. Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 "K" Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20423-0001

**Re: Notice of Consummation – STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub. No. 167X),
Union Pacific Railroad Company – Abandonment and
Discontinuance Exemption – In Cook County, Illinois (Skokie
Industrial Lead in Skokie, IL)**

Dear Mr. Williams:

This is to advise that as of September 3, 2003 the Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") with regard to the subject Abandonment and Discontinuance Exemption has consummated the abandonment for the remainder of the South Segment from Milepost 12.81 to Milepost 13.64 in Skokie, Illinois (the "South Segment Remainder"), pursuant to the authority granted in the Surface Transportation Board's ("Board's") Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use or Abandonment decided August 21, 2002, and served on August 23, 2002. In an earlier letter dated September 25, 2002, UP consummated the abandonment on a separate portion of the South Segment between MP 12.60 and MP 12.81 and discontinued service on the North Segment between MP 13.64 and MP 21.70.

The Board's decision in the above-referenced matter imposed four conditions with regard to the abandonment and discontinuance of the Line. 1. The completion of Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act process (removed by Board Decision decided October 18, 2002 and served October 24, 2002); 2. Notification to the National Geodetic Survey (scheduled to be complied with in preparation for salvage of the South Segment Remainder); 3. A public use condition (the time frame of imposition of a public use condition has expired) and; 4. A trail use condition (the trail use condition has expired). The Village of Skokie, Illinois had requested the trail use condition and received an extension from the Board until August 18, 2003. However, the Village of Skokie is no longer interested in requesting further extensions or negotiating for a trail use on the South Segment Remainder. A copy of the Village of Skokie's letter dated August 18, 2003 is attached hereto as Exhibit A and hereby made a part hereof. An additional ten (10) copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely,

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Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney, Law Department

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD
101 N. Wacker Dr., Rm. 1920, Chicago, IL 60606-1718
ph. (312) 777-2055 fx. (312) 777-2065

**Village Hall**

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Skokie, Illinois 60077

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Council-Manager Government

Mayor	George Van Dusen
Clerk	Marlene Williams
Trustees	Michele L. Bronberg
	Michael A. Gelder
	Frank G. McCabe
	Donald P. Perille
	Harry C. Piper
	Randall E. Roberts
Manager	Albert J. Rigoni
Counsel	J. Patrick Hanley

Awards and Distinctions

All America City Finalist
American Public Works Association
(APWA) Accreditation
Commission on Accreditation for
Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)
Commission on Fire Accreditation
International (CFAI)
Fitch IBCA AAA Financial
Bond Rating
Governor's Hometown Award
Government Finance Officers
Association Budget Award
Government Finance Officers
Association Certificate of
Achievement for Excellence in
Financial Reporting
Insurance Services Office (ISO)
Class One Fire Department
State of Illinois Certified
Health Department
Tree City U.S.A. Distinction

Village of Skokie

Department of Community Development

August 18, 2003

Mr. James L. Harrel
Senior Manager - Real Estate
Union Pacific Railroad
1800 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68102

Dear Mr. Harrel:

Per our telephone conversation, the Village of Skokie will not renew its Notice of Interim Trail Use for the abandoned Union Pacific right of way between Oakton and Dempster Streets. Although the Village is still interested in the future use of this land for a bicycle path, Swift rail station expansion, or other municipal uses, the Village does not have the financial resources at this time to purchase the property at Union Pacific's asking price. We also have concerns about the cost of any possible environmental clean up of the property. The Village would not purchase the property in an "as is" state without assurance that the price would be reduced for any environmental clean up that may be necessary.

As I indicated in our conversation, the right of way property is zoned M-2 Light Industry and can be used for allowable uses listed in the district. However, as the right of way is fairly narrow it would preclude the construction of most structures on the property. Thus, the primary use of the property would be for assemblage with adjacent properties to develop a buildable site or for storage purposes. All outdoor storage in the Village is only allowed by Special Use Permit and only when it is operated as an accessory use to a principal building. Thus, the land can not be used exclusively for storage purposes without the construction of a building.

In the future, please give me a call if you are unable to obtain a purchaser for the property and would like to discuss other purchase options with the Village.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Peyer
Community Development Director

cc: Albert J. Rigoni, Village Manager
James Cox, Planner

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