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September 8, 2003

Hon. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW (7th fl.)
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Dear Secretary Williams:

This refers to STB Docket No. AB-573X, Trinidad Railway, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—In Las Animas County, CO, and to the Decision of the Board, served October 2, 2002.

The Decision of the Board authorized the abandonment of the subject line effective on the date of service. Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. 1152.29(e)(2), if the abandonment authorization is not exercised within a year's time and the Board notified of the consummation of the abandonment authorization, it lapses, and a new proceeding would need to be instituted if the railroad wants to abandon the line.

The year will be up October 2, 2003. In the meantime, however, American Trails Association, Inc., on August 8, 2003, filed its Statement seeking to acquire the right-of-way of the line under the National Trails System Act, and Kern Valley Railroad Company, the successor in interest to the properties of Trinidad Railway, Inc., on August 11, 2003, asked that a Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use be issued to permit negotiations with American Trails Association, Inc. No Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use has yet been issued by the Board.

Since the Board will lose jurisdiction to issue a Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use once the abandonment authorization lapses, Kern Valley Railroad respectfully requests that the date by which the abandonment authorization must be exercised be extended ninety days, to January 1, 2004.

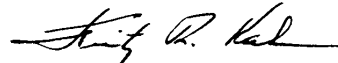
Ten copies of this letter are enclosed to permit your circulation of it. An additional copy is enclosed for you to stamp to acknowledge your receipt of it and to return to me in the enclosed

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stamped and self-addressed envelope.

If you have any question concerning the foregoing which you believe I may be able to answer or if I otherwise can be of assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,



Fritz R. Kahn

enc.

cc: Michael J. Van Wagenen, Esq.