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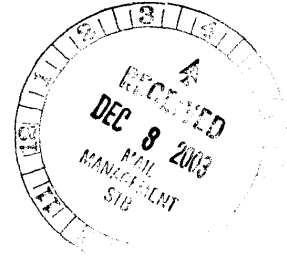
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BY FAX AND MAIL

565-9002

December 8, 2003

Hon. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: FD No. 34442, Maritime Rail, LLC
-- Lease And Operation Exemption --
Meadows Industrial Tracks

Dear Mr. Williams:

I am writing on behalf of Petitioner Maritime Rail, LLC ("Petitioner") to advise the Board that Petitioner has agreed with counsel for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to extend for up to 30 days from tomorrow December 9 (or until January 8, 2004) the extension in the effective date of its exemption notice. This extension is intended to give the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection sufficient time to meet with Petitioner so that the agency can satisfy itself as to any concerns over Petitioner's proposed transaction.

Please date stamp and return one copy of this letter for our records.

Sincerely yours,


John D. Heffner

Enclosures

cc: David Konschnik, Esq. (by fax)
Edward Greenberg, Esq.
Mr. John C. Koster
Mr. William Hooten