

JOHN D. HEFFNER, PLLC

1920 N St., N.W.

SUITE 800

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

(202) 263-4180

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings FAX (202) 296-3939
j.heffner@verizon.net

JAN - 8 2004

Part of
Public Record

ORIGINAL

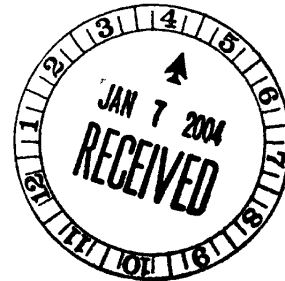
209802

January 7, 2004

BY HAND

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



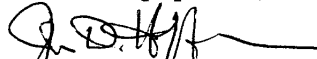
Dear Mr. Williams:

I am writing on behalf of Petitioner Maritime Rail, LLC, in connection with the above-captioned exemption proceeding.

On December 8, 2003, the Board served a decision extending until January 8, 2004, the effective date of this exemption in order to give interested parties an opportunity to file comments. Counsel for Consolidated Rail Corporation has asked Maritime to consent to a short extension in the effective date to permit it to submit any comments. Maritime consents to Conrail's request and asks the Board to extend the effective date to January 17, 2004, and accept any comments Conrail files on or before that date. However, Maritime asks that this extension just be limited to any filings made by Conrail.

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

Sincerely yours,


John D. Heffner

Enclosures

cc: David Konschnik, Esq. (by hand)
Jonathan Enright, Esq.
Mr. John C. Koster
Mr. Leonard Goldman
Mr. William Hooten