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December 22, 2004

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Room 700
Washington, D. C. 20423

RE: Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 579X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Parke and Vermillion Counties, IN

Dear Secretary Williams:

Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. ("ITF") requested a notice of interim trail use/rail banking for approximately a 1.17-mile line of railroad between milepost BD-191.41 at Montezuma and milepost BD-192.58 at Hillsdale in Parke and Vermillion Counties, IN, in the above-entitled proceeding. The current extension of the negotiating period expires on December 22, 2004. CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") has not consummated the abandonment, has been unable to finalize negotiations with ITF, and desires to continue to negotiate for interim trail use/rail banking with ITF. Therefore, CSXT respectfully requests the Board to grant a 180-day extension of time to June 20, 2005 to negotiate trail use with ITF. Additionally, CSXT respectfully requests an extension of the date to consummate the abandonment to August 19, 2005.

Enclosed are the original and 10 copies of this letter, and a filing fee of \$350. Please time and date stamp the additional copy of this letter and return it with our messenger. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours,

Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: CSX Transportation, Inc.

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