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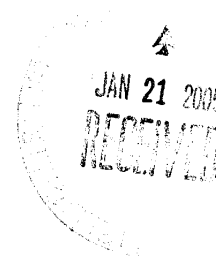
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January 19, 2005

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 700
Washington, DC 20006

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
JAN 21 2005
Part of
Public Record



Re: **Docket No. AB-325 (Sub-No. 2X)**
Florida Midland Railroad Company -- Abandonment
Exemption -- In Sumter and Lake Counties, Florida

Dear Secretary Williams:

By decision served in the above-captioned proceeding on February 23, 2001, Florida Midland Railroad Company, Inc. ("FMID") was granted an exemption for the abandonment of its 13.23-mile line of railroad extending from milepost ST-762.10 in Wildwood to milepost ST-773.71 in Leesburg and from milepost AS-800.76 to milepost AS-802.38 in Leesburg, in Sumter and Lake Counties, Florida (the "Leesburg Branch"). FMID's abandonment exemption became effective on March 25, 2001.

By letter dated February 21, 2002, FMID informed the Board that it was continuing the environmental consultations required as conditions on the abandonment, and that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29(e)(2) it would file a notice of consummation within sixty days of the completion of those consultations. By decision served June 19, 2002, a notice of interim trail use ("NITU") was issued for a portion of the Leesburg Branch, and in a series of subsequent decisions (the most recent served September 24, 2004) the NITU negotiating period was extended to December 2, 2004.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.29(e)(2) and 1152.60(e), FMID hereby provides notice that it exercised the authority granted herein and consummated abandonment of the portion of the Leesburg Branch extending from milepost ST-766.10 to milepost ST-769.43 on January 11, 2005. Consummation followed e-mail correspondence dated January 10, 2005 from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection indicating that no further FMID action was required with respect to the remaining environmental condition on abandonment, relating to a GIS-generated description of the Leesburg Branch right-of-way.

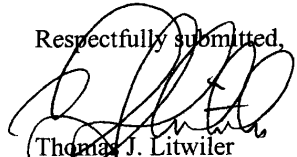
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Pursuant to the NITU issued in this proceeding, the portions of the Leesburg Branch right-of-way extending from milepost ST-769.43 to milepost ST-773.71 and from milepost AS-800.76 to milepost AS-802.38 have been transferred to the Trust for Public Land and the City of Leesburg and interim trail use under the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d), and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29 has been implemented. FMID is not proceeding at this time with abandonment of the portion of the Leesburg Branch extending from milepost ST-762.10 to milepost ST-766.10.

Ten copies of this letter are enclosed for filing at the Board. An extra copy also is enclosed, and I would request that you date-stamp that copy to show receipt of this filing and return it to me in the provided envelope. Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Litwiler
Attorney for Florida Midland
Railroad Company, Inc.

TJL:tl

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jay M. Evans, City of Leesburg
Mr. Douglas Hattaway, Trust for Public Land
Mr. Bruce McMahon, CSX Real Property
Florida Department of Transportation