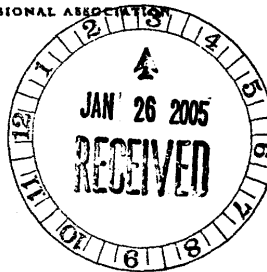


LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

January 26, 2005

Via Facsimile & U.S. Mail
The Honorable Vernon Williams
Secretary, Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001



2 13098
Jean M. Hamm
612-335-1955
jean.hamm@leonard.com

Re: Lease or Sale of 12 Car Lengths of Track to Whitnall Summit Company, In Connection With Petition of the Soo Line Railroad Company, d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway Company ("Soo Line") For Exemption to Abandon Approximately 5.0+/- miles of Rail Line Between Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; STB Docket No.: AB-57 (Sub No. 55X)

Dear Mr. Williams:

This letter is a follow-up to Soo Line's letter to the STB of December 13, 2004, responding to the request of Avalon Rail Inc. ("Avalon") for the continued use of 12 car lengths of Soo Line track. Soo Line wishes to inform the STB that it has initiated discussions with the Whitnall Summit Company, landlord of Avalon, regarding this track.

Last week Steve Fisk of Soo Line contacted Rody Borchardt of Whitnall discuss the potential sale or lease of 12 car lengths of Soo Line track. This follows upon the request made by Avalon to have access to this track to facilitate operation of its business located on a spur to the West Allis Line. Soo Line and Whitnall agreed to meet informally in mid-February to negotiate the terms of a sale or lease of the track.

As Soo Line understands the situation, the 12 car lengths of track will allow Avalon's connection to the Union Pacific line to operate more efficiently and smoothly. At the same time, Soo Line continues to meet all the requirements for the proposed abandonment. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD
Professional Association


JEAN M. HAMM

JMH/sah

cc: Judy Mitchell
Steve Fisk
June L. S. Garland, Avalon Rail, Inc., President of Sales & Marketing

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