

BALL JANIK LLP

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FACSIMILE 202-783-6947

LOUIS E. GITOMER
OF COUNSEL
(202) 466-6532

lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com

June 9, 2005

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



RE: Docket No. AB-979 (~~AB-979~~ EX), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed are the original and 10 copies of a Notice of Exemption for abandonment in the above-entitled proceedings and check number 245650 for the filing fee of \$3,000 for the proceeding. Also enclosed is a computer diskette of the notice, environmental report and historic report.

Please time and date stamp the additional copy of this letter and the notice and return them with our messenger. Thank you for your assistance.

If you have any questions, call or email me.

Sincerely yours,

Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad,
Inc.

Enclosures

FEE RECEIVED

JUN 9 2005

SURFACE

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FILED

JUN 9 2005

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 09 2005

Part of
Public Record

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. 979 (~~XXXXXX~~ X)

CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—
IN HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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Gary A. Laakso, Esq.
Vice President Regulatory Counsel
RailAmerica, Inc.
5300 Broken Sound Boulevard N.W.
Second Floor
Boca Raton, FL 33487
(561) 994-6015

Louis E. Gitomer, Esq.
Of Counsel
BALL JANIK LLP
1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 638-3307

Attorneys for: CONNECTICUT
SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC

Dated: June 9, 2005

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. 979 (~~979-135-1~~ X)

CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—
IN HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

The Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. (“CSO”) files this Verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to the class exemption at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 for CSO to abandon approximately a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the “Line”).

1. Proposed consummation date. The proposed consummation date is July 29, 2005.
2. Certification required by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b). *See* Exhibit A.
3. Information required by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1) through (4), (7), and (8), and (e)(4).

(a) General.

(1) Exact name of applicant. Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

(2) Whether applicant is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C.

Subtitle IV, Chapter 105. CSO is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, Chapter 105.

(3) Relief sought. CSO seeks to use the class exemption at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 to abandon the 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT. There has been no local or overhead traffic on the Line in over two years.

(4) Map. *See* Exhibit B.

(7) Name, title, and address of representative of applicant to whom correspondence should be sent: Gary A. Laakso, Esq., Vice President Regulatory Counsel, RailAmerica, Inc., 5300 Broken Sound Boulevard N.W., Second Floor, Boca Raton, FL 33487, (561) 994-6015, and Louis E. Gitomer, Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F St., N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 638-3307.

(8) List of all United States Postal Service ZIP Codes that the line proposed for abandonment traverses. The Line traverses ZIP Code 06040.

(e) Rural and community impact.

(4) Statement of whether the properties proposed to be abandoned are appropriate for use for other public purposes, including roads and highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, or recreation. If the applicant is aware of any restriction on the title to the property, including any reversionary interest, which would affect the transfer of title or the use of property for other than rail purposes, this shall be disclosed.

The Line traverses a predominately urban area that has an adequate road and highway network. Therefore, there is little or no likelihood that the rail corridor is needed for a transit or

highway corridor. CSO is unaware of any restrictions on the title to the property. CSO anticipates selling a portion of the real estate to the State of Connecticut for use as a trail.

4. The level of labor protection. The interests of railroad employees who may be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment will be adequately protected by the labor protective conditions in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

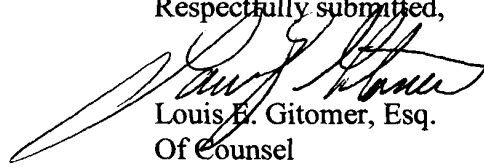
5. Certification. Certificates of compliance with the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50(d)(1) and 1105.11 are attached as Exhibit C.

6. Environmental Report. *See* Exhibit D. Based on information in CSO's possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

7. Historic Report. *See* Exhibit E.

Gary A. Laakso, Esq.
Vice President Regulatory Counsel
RailAmerica, Inc.
5300 Broken Sound Boulevard N.W.
Second Floor
Boca Raton, FL 33487
(561) 994-6015

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis E. Gitomer", is written over the typed name and title.

Louis E. Gitomer, Esq.
Of Counsel
BALL JANIK LLP
1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 638-3307

Attorneys for: CONNECTICUT
SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC

Dated: June 9, 2005

VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION THAT RAIL LINE MEETS CRITERIA OF 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1152.50(b)

I, Charles Hunter, being duly sworn depose and state that I am Vice President and General Manager of Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO"), that I am authorized to make this verification, and that I have read the foregoing Notice of Exemption and know the facts asserted therein are true and accurate as stated to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I hereby certify that no local traffic has moved over the 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT owned by CSO for at least two years prior to the date hereof, and that any overhead traffic on the line can be rerouted over other lines. Further, no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or a State or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period. The foregoing certification is made on behalf of CSO by the undersigned after due and careful investigation of the matters herein certified and based on the best of the knowledge, information, and belief of the undersigned.

Charles Hunter

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 2 day of June 2005.

My Commission Expires: 2-10-07

Jennifer Ladue
Notary Public

EXHIBIT B

MAP

DOCKET No. AB-979 (SUB-No1x)
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION IN
HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

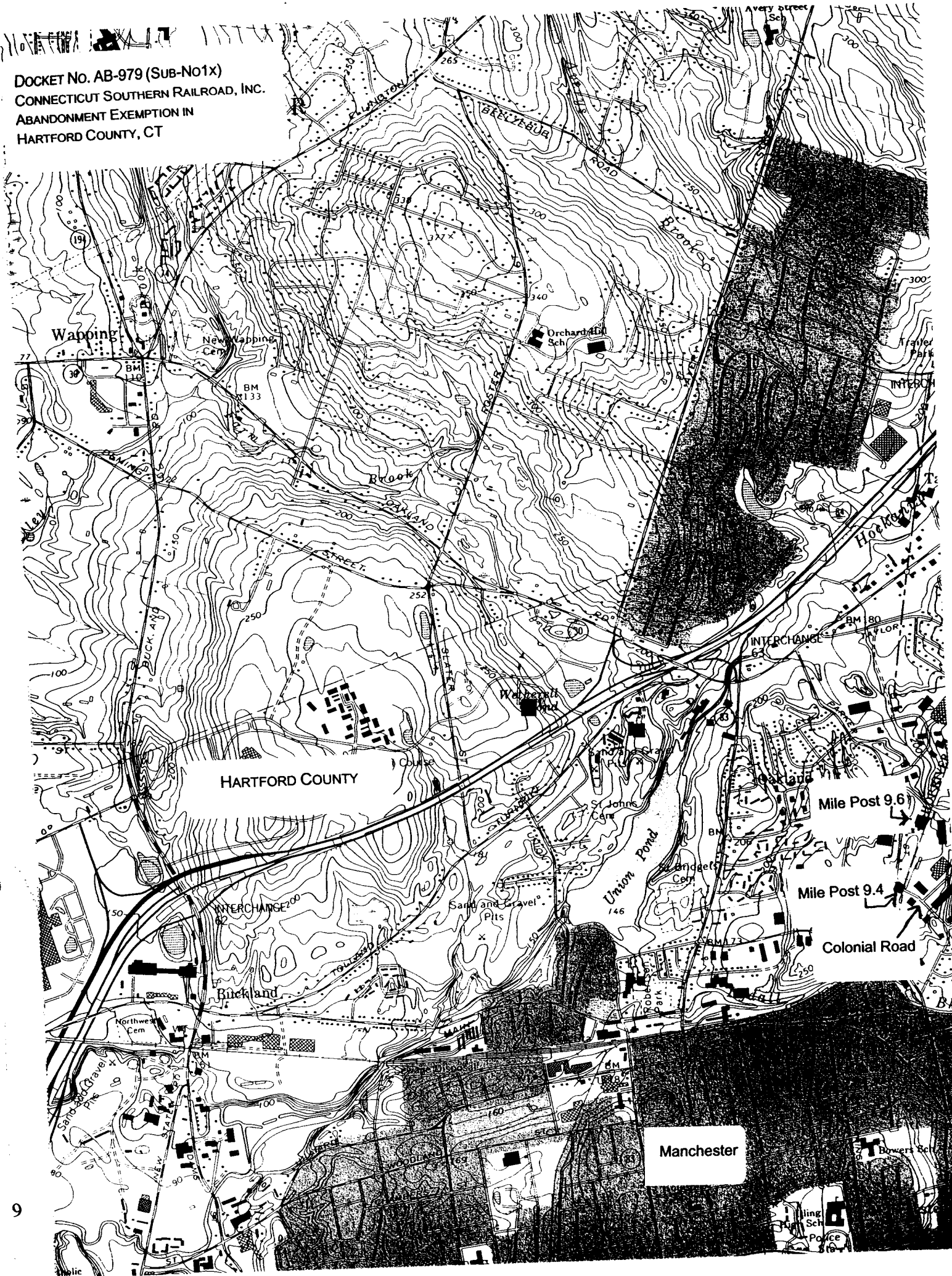


EXHIBIT C

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (d) (1), the undersigned hereby certifies that notice of the proposed abandonment in Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X) was mailed via first class mail on May 27, 2005, to the following parties:

State Public Service Commission

Connecticut Public Utility Control Department
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Connecticut Transportation Department
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

Military Traffic Management Command

MTMCTEA
ATTN: Railroads for National Defense
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd.
Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606-2574

National Park Service

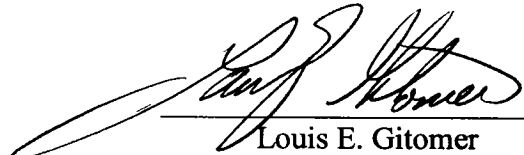
Mr. Tom Ross
Chief of National Recreation and Trails
U.S. Department of Interior - National Park Service
Recreation Resources Assistance Division
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

National Park Service

U.S. Department of Interior
National Park Service
Land Resources Division
800 North Capitol St., N.E.
Room 540
Washington, DC 20002

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Chief of the Forest Service
4th Floor N.W., Yates Building
14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250



Louis E. Gitomer
June 9, 2005

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FACSIMILE 202-783-6947

LOUIS E. GITOMER
Of COUNSEL
(202) 466-6532

lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com

May 27, 2005

Connecticut Transportation Department
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-B-1~~ X), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.* –
Abandonment Exemption in Hartford County, CT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please be advised that on or after June 9, 2005, Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the "Line"). Based on information in our possession, the Line does not contain any federally granted right of way. Any documentation in CSO's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

In connection with the proposed abandonment, Federal Regulations at 49 C.F.R. 1152.50(d)(1) require that we provide you with the following information:

1. Name of railroad. Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.
2. Description of line to be abandoned. CSO proposes to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT. The Line traverses U.S. Postal ZIP Code 06040.

Connecticut Transportation Department
May 27, 2005
Page 2

3. Abandonment procedure to be followed. CSO intends to file a Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. 1152.50. These exemption procedures are applicable to rail lines that have had no local traffic for at least two years and where any overhead traffic can be rerouted. No local traffic has moved over the Line for over two years, and any overhead traffic can be rerouted.

4. Date of filing. CSO expects to file the Notice of Exemption with the STB on or after June 9, 2005.

A map of the affected area is enclosed. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Gitomer", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the bottom left.

Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure

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FACSIMILE 202-783-6947

lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com

May 27, 2005

Connecticut Public Utility Control Department
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Docket No. 979 (S██████X), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please be advised that on or after June 9, 2005, Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the "Line"). Based on information in our possession, the Line does not contain any federally granted right of way. Any documentation in CSO's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

In connection with the proposed abandonment, Federal Regulations at 49 C.F.R. 1152.50(d)(1) require that we provide you with the following information:

1. Name of railroad. Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.
2. Description of line to be abandoned. CSO proposes to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT. The Line traverses U.S. Postal ZIP Code 06040.

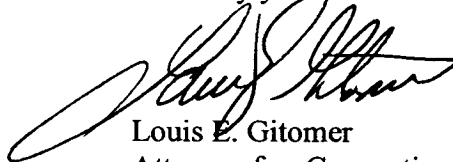
Connecticut Public Utility Control Department
May 27, 2005
Page 2

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Sincerely yours

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Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

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lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com

May 27, 2005

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Chief of the Forest Service
4th Floor N.W., Yates Building
14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Seaboard~~ X), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.*—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please be advised that on or after June 9, 2005, Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the "Line"). Based on information in our possession, the Line does not contain any federally granted right of way. Any documentation in CSO's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

In connection with the proposed abandonment, Federal Regulations at 49 C.F.R. 1152.50(d)(1) require that we provide you with the following information:

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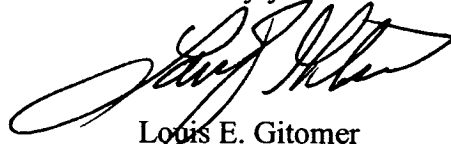
U.S. Department of Agriculture
May 27, 2005
Page 2

3. Abandonment procedure to be followed. CSO intends to file a Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. 1152.50. These exemption procedures are applicable to rail lines that have had no local traffic for at least two years and where any overhead traffic can be rerouted. No local traffic has moved over the Line for over two years, and any overhead traffic can be rerouted.

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Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

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May 27, 2005

U.S. Department of Interior
National Park Service
Land Resources Division
800 North Capitol St., N.E.
Room 540
Washington, DC 20002

RE: Docket No. 979 (S██████X), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

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U.S. Department of Interior
May 27 2005
Page 2

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A map of the affected area is enclosed. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours

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Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

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Of COUNSEL
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lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com

May 27, 2005

Mr. Tom Ross
Chief of National Recreation and Trails
U.S. Department of Interior - National Park Service
Recreation Resources Assistance Division
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~SECRET~~ X), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.*—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT

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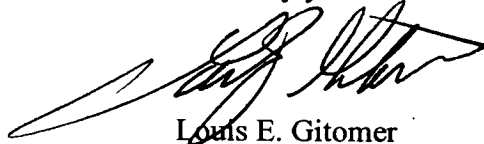
Mr. Tom Ross
May 27 2005
Page 2

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Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

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FACSIMILE 202-783-6947

LOUIS E. GITOMER
Of COUNSEL
(202) 466-6532

lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com

May 27, 2005

MTMCTEA
ATTN: Railroads for National Defense
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd.
Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606-2574

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~SP-11-14X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please be advised that on or after June 9, 2005, Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the "Line"). Based on information in our possession, the Line does not contain any federally granted right of way. Any documentation in CSO's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

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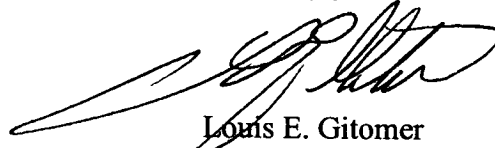
MTMCTEA
May 27 2005
Page 2

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Sincerely yours

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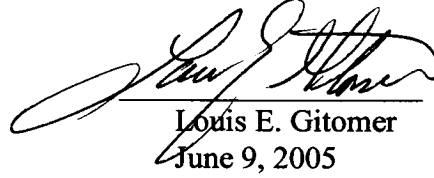
Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that notice of the proposed abandonment in Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X) was advertised on June 6, 2005 in the Journal Inquirer, a newspaper of general circulation in Hartford County, CT, as required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12.



Louis E. Gitomer
June 9, 2005

PERS

Sleeps 6,
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745 CLASSICS & ANTIQUES

CADILLAC BROUGHAM, Seville, 1979, 4 door, 1 owner, 38k original, mint condition, \$6500, Call 745-2832

CADILLAC ELDORADO, 1980, complete parts car, not running, \$225, Call 645-1531

CADILLAC Eldorado '79, 82k miles, many new parts, very good condition. No rust. \$2,000/BO Call 875-1974

CADILLAC Seville '76 - 4 dr. Yellow on yellow. Loaded. 50K miles, exc cond. \$1,800. Call 668-2792

CHEVY BELAIRE 1957, 4DR, green & white. Fully restored. \$15,500. 206-8412

CHEVY Corvette conv, 1975, L48 AT, no air w/hardtop. Exc cond, must see. Blue/white top, many new parts, 48K orig. Gared \$17,900. 871-9625

CHEVY ELCAMINO '83, With diesel engine, very rare car. Only 82K AC, AT, like new. Only serious buyers. Only \$6250. Call 860-684-2156

CHEVY NOVA '77, mint condition, exhaust/intake, fully restored, \$6,999/BO. Call 872-8996 or 836-9579

CHRYSLER NEW YORKER 1966, Blue, all power, 440 motor, 79K orig mi. 1 Owner. Asking \$3000. Call 860-289-5421

745 CLASSICS & ANTIQUES

CORVETTE 1977, L-82, 4 spd, factory alum wheel, ps, pb, tilt, leather. Excellent condition. Also 1993 Corvette. Call cell 860-918-3093.

Corvette '72 StingRay, 350, 4spd, black, low mi, Very Clean \$10,000/bo 860-342-5012 eves

Corvette '90, Triple black Conv. 6 spd, CD player, power locks, Ex cond. Garage stored. 52K, upgraded rims. Corvette owners dream \$17,500. 432-4961

CORVETTE CONVERTIBLE '65 Maroon, 327/350, 4 spd, original engine, blk/white interior, new top, ss brakes, correct. \$49,900 Ellington 871-7832

CORVETTE L82, 1976, 65K, Exc Cond. \$9800 or BO, call 623-8787 or 214-6294

CORVETTE STINGRAY '76 Red with white int, T/Tops. 350 c.i., 4 spd. Headers & undercoating. \$10,500. Call (860) 749-8651

EL CAMINO 1986 Very clean, pw, ps, pb, 4.3 fuel injection \$3500 or best offer. Call 860-568-5818

FORD Fairlane 500 1063 2dr 6cyl at, many new parts new interior and chrome car is in primer. \$2200. Call 860-684-5684 after 6:30

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF VERNON

The Vernon Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC) at its meeting on June 9, 2005, Thursday, 7:30 PM in the meeting room on the first floor of the Senior Citizens Center, 26 Park Place, Rockville / Vernon will hold the following public hearing:

Application [PZ-2005-18] by Thomas Joyce, Town Planner, to amend Zoning Regulations and Zoning Map to convert current Planned Mixed Use Development (PMUD) district in two locations to two (2) different districts with one at the Gerber Farm Area [from Dart Hill Road south along the South Windsor town line] and another at the I-84 Exit #67 Area [from Reservoir Road (Route 31) west along the north side of I-84 at Exit #67]; refer to storm water management practices; and require both a Site Plan and a Special Permit approval for drive-up service windows.

This PZC Application is available for inspection by the public in the office of the Planning Department, Vernon Town Hall, 14 Park Place, Rockville, CT.

Gregory LaChance, Chairperson
Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC)

Journal Inquirer
June 1, 2005
June 6, 2005

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ellington Inland Wetlands Agency will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 20, 2005, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex Building, 57 Main Street, Ellington, CT to hear the following application:

1. #IW200515 - Development Services for a Wetland map amendment on property located on Windermere Avenue, APN 017-024-0000 & 018-003-0000.
2. #IW200514 - Development Services for a Permit to Conduct Regulated Activity within an Area of Influence for grading associated with construction of App

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF VERNON - PUBLIC NOTICE

Meeting date: June 15, 2005

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Vernon Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 15, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Vernon Police Department, 725 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, Connecticut, to hear the following applications:

1. The appeal of CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, 247 VERNON AVENUE, seeking a variance to reduce lot size from 41,813 sq. ft. to 41,600 sq. ft. (Section 4.7.1.1.) and reduce front yard setback from 50' to 35' (Section 4.7.1.3). Located at Street No. 247, on the east side of Vernon Avenue, 1,640' distant from the intersection of South Street with Vernon Avenue in the PRD zone.
2. The appeal of CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, 175 VERNON AVENUE, seeking a variance to reduce lot size from 35,937 sq. ft. to 34,946 sq. ft. (Section 4.7.1.1) and reduce front yard setback from 50' to 36' (Section 4.7.1.3). Located at Street No. 175, on the east side of Vernon Avenue, 1,215' distant from the intersection of South Street with Vernon Avenue in the PRD zone.
3. The appeal of JOSEPH CAMPOSEO, 96 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, seeking a variance to reduce the rear yard setback (Section 4.4.1.5) Street No. 96, located on the west side of Hartford Turnpike, 400' distant from the intersection of Main Street with Hartford Turnpike in the Commercial zone, and to reduce the rear yard setback at 107 MAIN STREET (Section 4.9.1.4) located on the east side of Main Street, 500' distant from the intersection of Hartford Turnpike with Main Street in the R-27 zone.
4. The appeal of TO DESIGN INC., 483 TALCOTTVILLE ROAD, seeking site suitability and a special exception for a used car dealership (Section 4.9.3.2 and CGS 14-54 and CGS 14-55). Located at Street No. 483, located on the east side of Talcottville Road, 250' from the intersection of Merline Road with Talcottville Road located in the Commercial zone.
5. The appeal of JERRY S. INGRAM, 167 WARREN AVENUE, seeking a variance to lot area and lot frontage (Section 4.4.1.1 and Section 4.4.1.2). Street No. 167, located on the north side of Warren Avenue, 300 feet distant from the intersection of Maple Street with Warren Avenue in the R-27 zone.

Correspondence relative to the above appeal may be submitted and will be read into the record of the Public Hearing.

All interested persons may appear and be heard.

TOWN OF VERNON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
MICHAEL MURRAY, CHAIRMAN

Journal Inquirer
June 6, 2005
June 13, 2005

PUBLIC NOTICE

Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") gives notice that on or about June 9, 2005, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments permitting CSO to abandon approximately a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT, which traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Code 06040. This proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at 202-565-1545.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicants' representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Congressional and Public Services at 202-565-1592. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: Louis E. Gittomer, Ball 25, Shik LLP, 1455 F St., N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 638-3307.

Journal Inquirer
June 6, 2005

Affidavit of Publication

State of Connecticut } ss.
County of Hartford } Manchester

I, Donna Chiappond, do solemnly swear that I am...Classified Bookkeeper of the Journal Inquirer printed and published at Manch. in the State of Connecticut and that from my own personal knowledge and reference to the files of said publication the advertisement of....Legal notice... for the Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. On June 9, 2005 the Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments permitting CSO to abandon approx. a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, Ct. (Please check tear sheet for information).

was inserted in the regular editions on dates as follows: June 6, 2005

Donna Chiappond
Billing Department

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of June, 2005
Karin E. Marsh
KARIN E. MARSH Notary Public
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 31, 2008

Seal

EXHIBIT D

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
(49 C.F.R. 1105.7)

Docket No. 979 (~~Subpart X~~)

**CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—
IN HARTFORD COUNTY, CT**

Dated: May 20, 2005

(1) Proposed Action and Alternatives. Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. (“CSO”) proposes to abandon approximately a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the “Line”). Upon receipt of abandonment authority CSO intends to reclassify about 200 feet of the western most track as spur track needed to reach a future industrial park, and on the remainder of the Line salvage the rail, crossties, and other track material and sell the real estate to the State of Connecticut for use as a trail extension to the Hop River State Park Trail, which abuts the Line at milepost 9.6.

CSO has not transported traffic over the Line in over eight years. There are no shippers on the Line and no overhead traffic moves on the Line.

The only alternative to abandonment would be not to abandon the Line. No service has been provided on the Line since 1996. The Line is a stub end track and therefore has no overhead traffic. There is no traffic available on the Line to justify the costs of maintaining and

operating the Line. Making a capital investment in the Line would not be a prudent use of carrier resources. With no potential traffic, CSO has decided to seek abandonment of the Line. In addition, the State of Connecticut has expressed interest in acquiring a portion of the Line to extend its existing trail system.

A map of the proposed abandonment is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.¹

(2) Transportation System. Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

No passenger traffic will be diverted to other modes as a result of the proposed abandonment. There is no rail freight traffic, and so no rail freight traffic will be diverted to motor carrier. Accordingly, the proposed abandonment will have no adverse effects on regional or local transportation systems and patterns.

(3) Land Use. (i) Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies. (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land. (iii) If the action affects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by 1105.9. (iv) If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 and explain why.

(i) CSO considers the proposed abandonment to be consistent with existing land use plans, especially in light of the State's desire to acquire a portion of the Line as a trail and add it to the trail that is adjacent to the eastern terminus of the Line. The land adjoining the Line is mainly urban in character.

¹ The copy of the map that accompanied the information-gathering letters has been removed from those letters for the purpose of this pleading. That map was the same as the map in Exhibit 1 hereto.

CSO contacted the City of Manchester, CT by letter dated May 20, 2005. See Exhibit 2. No response has been received as of this date. A copy of this Environmental Report has been mailed to the appropriate local and state agencies for their information and further comment.

(ii) Since the abandonment is within an urban area, the City of Manchester, CSO does not believe that there is any prime agricultural land that will be affected. CSO notified the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") Natural Resources Conservation Service (the agency succeeding to the responsibilities of the Soil Conservation Service) of the proposed abandonment by letter dated May 20, 2005, and requested assistance in identifying any potential effects on prime agricultural land. See Exhibit 2. No response has been received to date. A copy of this report is being supplied to the USDA for its information and further comment.

(iii) The Line does not pass through a designated coastal zone.

(iv) The area traversed by the Line, as described in item (i) above, is most suitable for trail use based on the offer CSO has received from the State of Connecticut. An adequate road and highway network serves the area. Based on the plans of the State of Connecticut, there is little or no likelihood that the rail corridor is needed for a transit or highway corridor.

(4) Energy. (i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources. (ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities. (iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why. (iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than: (A) 1,000 rail carloads a year; or (B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given.

(i) The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of energy resources.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of recyclable commodities.

(iii) The proposed abandonment will have minimal effect on overall energy efficiency.

(iv) The proposed abandonment will not cause the diversion more than 1,000 rail carloads a year; or an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the Line of rail traffic to motor carriage.

(5) Air. (i) If the proposed action will result in either: (A) An increase in rail traffic of at least 100 percent (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposal, or (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100 percent (measured by carload activity), or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or § 10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in sub-section (5)(i)(A) will apply. (ii) If the proposed action affects a class I or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either: (A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 50 percent (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line; (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20 percent (measured by carload activity); or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment, then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or 49 U.S.C. § 10505), or a case involving the reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply. (iii) If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills; contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

(i) The proposed abandonment will not result in meeting or exceeding the specified thresholds.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will not result in meeting or exceeding the specified thresholds.

(iii) The proposed abandonment will not affect the transportation of ozone depleting materials.

(6) Noise. If any of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause: (i) an incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels Ldn or more; or (ii) an increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area, and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

Not applicable.

(7) Safety. (i) Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings). (ii) If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials. (iii) If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

(i) The proposed abandonment will have no detrimental effects on public health and safety. There are no grade crossings on the Line.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will not affect the transportation of hazardous materials.

(iii) CSO is not aware of any known hazardous material waste sites or sites where known hazardous material spills have occurred on or along the rail corridor of the Line.

(8) Biological Resources. (i) Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects. (ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

(i) CSO does not believe that the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat. CSO notified the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service of the proposed abandonment by letter dated May 20, 2005, and requested assistance in determining whether the proposed abandonment will adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat. *See Exhibit 2.* A copy of this Report has been supplied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for its information and further comment.

(ii) CSO is unaware of any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests that would be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment. CSO notified the National Park Service of the proposed abandonment by letter dated May 20, 2005, and requested assistance in identifying any potential effects on wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests. *See Exhibit 2.* To date, no response to this request has been received. A copy of this Report is being supplied to the National Park Service for its information and comment.

(9) Water. (i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies. (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects. (iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

(i) CSO is confident that the proposed abandonment will be consistent with applicable water quality standards. CSO contacted the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (“CTEP”) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“USEPA”) by letters dated May 20, 2005. *See Exhibit 2.* To date, no response to this request has been received. A copy of this Report has been supplied to the CTEP and USEPA for their information and comment.

(ii) CSO believes that no permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act are required for the proposed abandonment and that no designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be

affected by the proposed abandonment. CSO contacted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by letter dated May 20, 2005 and has received no response to date. *See Exhibit 2.* A copy of this Report has been supplied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for its information and comment.

(iii) CSO believes that no permit under section 402 of the Clean Water Act would be required for the abandonment. CSO contacted the CTEP and the USEPA by letter dated May 20, 2005. *See Exhibit 2.* A copy of this Report has been supplied to the CTEP and USEPA for their information and further comment.

(10) Proposed Mitigation. Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate.

CSO does not expect any adverse environmental impact from the proposed abandonment and, therefore, see no need for any mitigating actions. CSO will, of course, adhere to any remedial actions suggested by the recipients of this Report, which are required by the Board.

EXHIBIT 1 – MAP

DOCKET No. AB-979 (SUB-No1x)
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION IN
HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

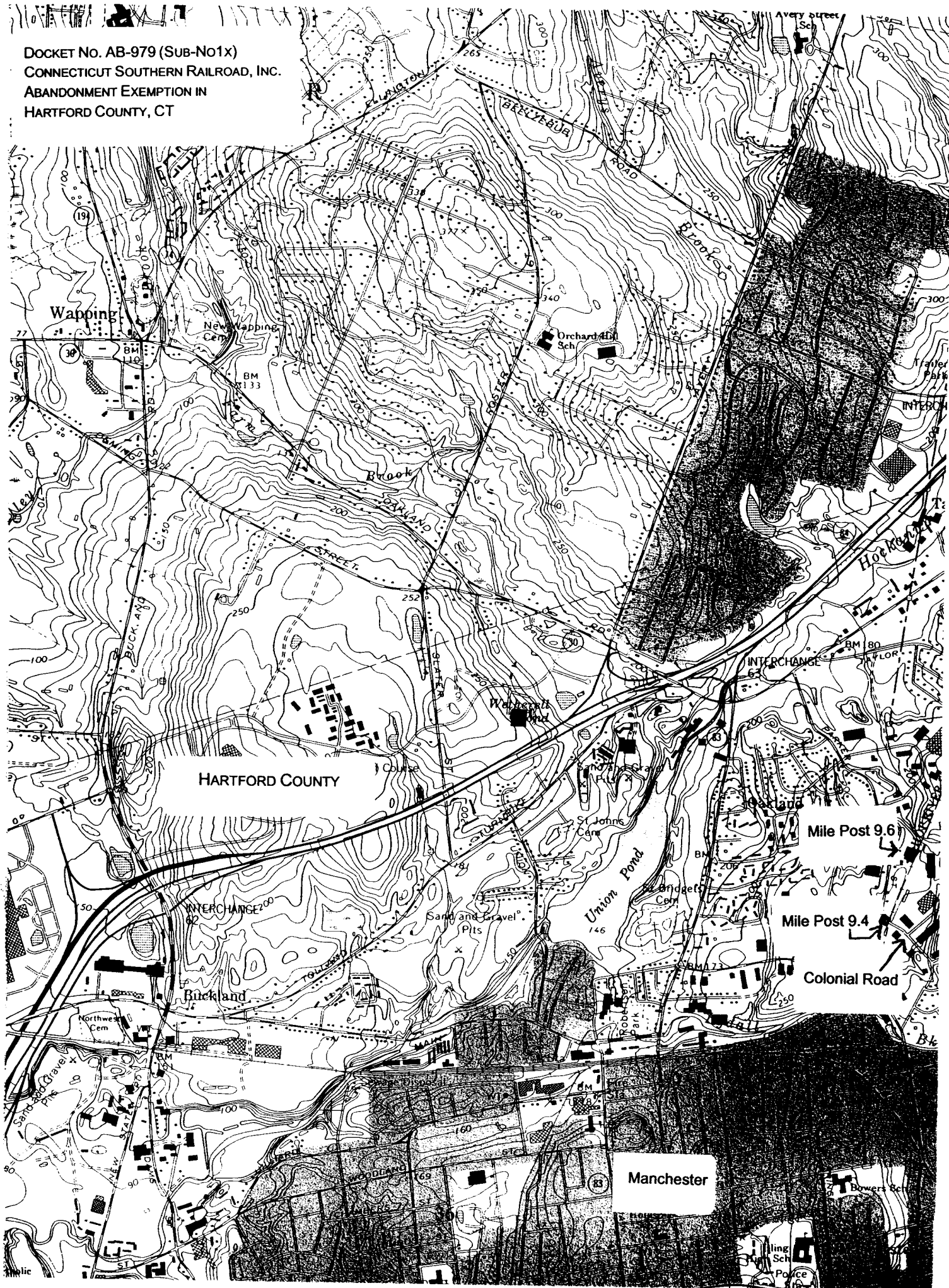
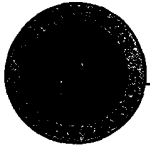


EXHIBIT 2 – LETTERS



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

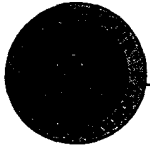
Connecticut State Clearinghouse
Intergovernmental Review Coordinator
Budget and Finance Division
Office of Policy and Management
450 Capital Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106-1308

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. –
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Sir/Madam:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

Attached is an Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area. We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone 202-565-1538 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

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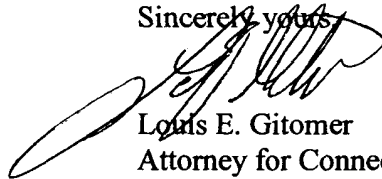
Connecticut State Clearinghouse

May 20, 2005

Page 2

Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks. Your comments will be considered by the STB in evaluating the environmental impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact our representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Louis E. Gitomer who may be contacted by telephone at 202-638-3307, email at lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com, or mail at Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Sincerely yours,



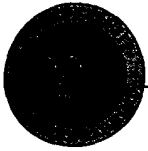
Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

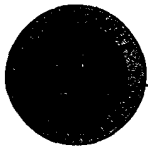
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06010

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Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

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CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

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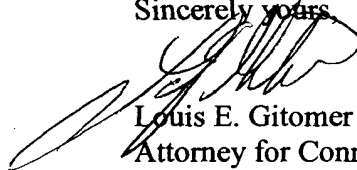
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

May 20, 2005

Page 2

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Sincerely yours,



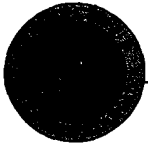
Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

Honorable Stephen T. Cassano
Mayor
Town of Manchester
1109 East Middle Turnpike
Manchester, CT 06040

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.-
Abandonment Exemption-in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Mayor Cassano:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

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CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

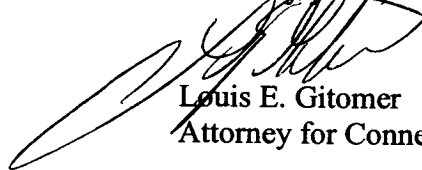
Mayor Cassano

May 20, 2005

Page 2

Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks. Your comments will be considered by the STB in evaluating the environmental impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact our representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Louis E. Gitomer who may be contacted by telephone at 202-638-3307, email at lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com, or mail at Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAA N/NGS12
National Geodetic Survey
SSMC-3 #9202
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~AB-979~~ X), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. –
Abandonment Exemption in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

Attached is an Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area. We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone 202-565-1538 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).



A RailAmerica Company



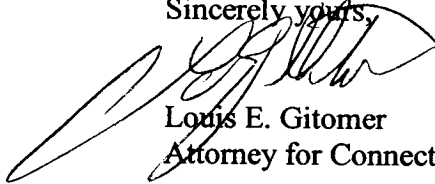
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
May 20, 2005
Page 2

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Sincerely yours,

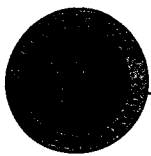


Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

US Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
Regulatory Office
696 Virginia Road
Concord MA 01742-2751

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

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A RailAmerica Company



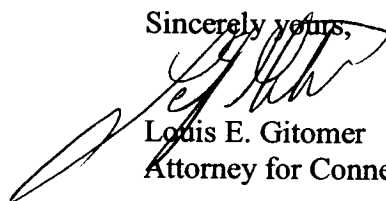
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

US Army Corps of Engineers
May 20, 2005
Page 2

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Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

US Department of Agriculture
National Resource Conservation Service
Windsor Service Center
100 Northfield Drive, Floor 4
Windsor, CT 06095-4730

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

Attached is an Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area. We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone 202-565-1538 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).



A RailAmerica Company



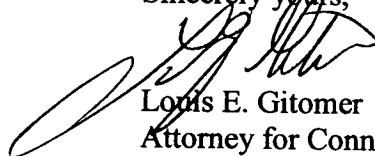
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

US Department of Agriculture
May 20, 2005
Page 2

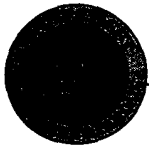
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Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1
1 Congress Street
Boston, MA 02114-2023

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

Attached is an Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area. We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone 202-565-1538 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

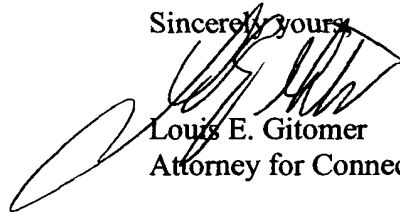
US Environmental Protection Agency

May 20, 2005

Page 2

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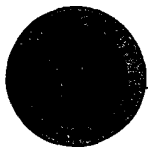
Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

US National Park Service
Northeast Region
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street, Fifth Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

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CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

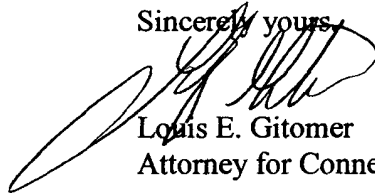
US National Park Service

May 20, 2005

Page 2

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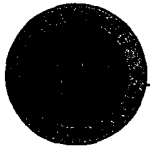
Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Region 5
300 West Gate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

Attached is an Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area. We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone 202-565-1538 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

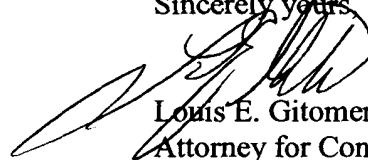
US Fish and Wildlife Service

May 20, 2005

Page 2

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Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure



A RailAmerica Company

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7, the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the Environmental Report in Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X) was mailed via first class mail on May 20, 2005, to the following parties:

Connecticut State Clearinghouse
Intergovernmental Review Coordinator
Budget and Finance Division
Office of Policy and Management
450 Capital Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106-1308

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06010

Honorable Stephen T. Cassano
Mayor
Town of Manchester
1109 East Middle Turnpike
Manchester, CT 06040

US Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
Regulatory Office
696 Virginia Road
Concord MA 01742-2751

US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1
1 Congress Street
Boston, MA 02114-2023

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Region 5
300 West Gate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAA N/NGS12
National Geodetic Survey
SSMC-3 #9202
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

US National Park Service
Northeast Region
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street, Fifth Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

US Department of Agriculture
National Resource Conservation Service
Windsor Service Center
100 Northfield Drive, Floor 4
Windsor, CT 06095-4730


Louis E. Gitomer
June 9, 2005

EXHIBIT E

HISTORIC REPORT
(49 C.F.R. 1105.8)

Docket No. 979 (~~Sub No. 1~~ X)

**CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—
IN HARTFORD COUNTY, CT**

Dated: May 20, 2005

(1) Proposed Action and Alternatives. Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. (“CSO”) proposes to abandon approximately a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT (the “Line”). Upon receipt of abandonment authority CSO intends to reclassify about 200 feet of the western most track as spur track needed to reach a future industrial park, and on the remainder of the Line salvage the rail, crossties, and other track material and sell the real estate to the State of Connecticut for use as a trail extension to the Hop River State Park Trail, which abuts the Line at milepost 9.6.

CSO has not transported traffic over the Line in over eight years. There are no shippers on the Line and no overhead traffic moves on the Line.

The only alternative to abandonment would be not to abandon the Line. No service has been provided on the Line since 1996. The Line is a stub end track and therefore has no overhead traffic. There is no traffic available on the Line to justify the costs of maintaining and operating the Line. Making a capital investment in the Line would not be a prudent use of carrier resources. With no potential traffic, CSO has decided to seek abandonment of the Line. In

addition, the State of Connecticut has expressed interest in acquiring a portion of the Line to extend its existing trail system.

A map of the proposed abandonment is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.¹

HISTORIC REPORT

1. A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action;

U.S. Geological Survey Maps have been supplied to the Connecticut Historical Commission ("CTHC"). *See* Exhibit 3.

¹ The copy of the map that accompanied the information-gathering letters has been removed from those letters for the purpose of this pleading. That map was the same as the map in Exhibit 1 hereto.

2. A written description of the right of way (including approximate widths, to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area;

The right-of-way, which averages 100-feet in width, begins at the connection to the westernmost terminus of the Hop River State Park Trail, at milepost 9.6 an elevation of about 210 feet above sea level. The Line continues in a northeast to southwest direction for about 942 feet until the beginning of the Line at milepost 9.4, at a constant elevation. The Line is just north of Manchester. It does not cross any bodies of water and has no bridges. The Line crosses no streets.

3. Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area;

There are no railroad structures on the Line that are 50 years old or older.

4. The date(s) of construction of the structure(s), and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations, to the extent such information is known;

None.

Petitioners contacted CTHC. *See* Exhibit 2. No response has been received. A copy of this Report has been mailed to CTHC.

5. A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action;

CSO has not served any shippers on the Line since 1996. As a result of the proposed transaction, CSO intends to terminate railroad operations, reclassify about 200 feet of the western most track as spur track needed to reach a future industrial park, and on the remainder of the Line sell the real estate to the State of Connecticut for an extension of the Hop River State Park Trail.

The proposed abandonment will not result in a change of operations since there is no demand for rail service. CSO expects to salvage the track and materials and dispose of the real estate for the above-mentioned trail use.

CSO acquired the Line from Consolidated Rail Corporation in September 1996.²

6. A brief summary of documents in the carrier's possession, such as engineering drawings, that might be useful in documenting a structure that is found to be historic;

CSO possesses the valuation maps of the Line, but is not aware of any other documentation in its possession.

7. An opinion (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. 60.4), and whether there is a likelihood of archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions

² *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Lines of Consolidated Rail Corporation*, STB Finance Docket No. 33120 (STB served September 27, 1996).

(including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities);

CSO believes that any bridges and structures on the Line are not unusual or noteworthy for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. It is also CSO's opinion that there are no archeological resources or other railroad related historic properties in the project area.

8. A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or manmade) that might affect the archeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic waste), and the surrounding terrain.

CSO believes that there are no existing records as to the nature of any known subsurface ground disturbance or fill, or environmental conditions that might affect the archeological recovery of any potential resources.

9. Within 30 days of receipt of the historic report, the State Historic Preservation Officer may request the following additional information regarding specific non railroad owned properties or groups of properties immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way: photographs of specified properties that can be readily seen from the railroad right-of-way (or other public rights-of-way adjacent to the property) and a written description of any previously discovered archeological sites, identifying the location and type of the site (*i.e.* prehistoric or native American).

CSO does not foresee the likelihood that any additional information will need to be supplied in association with the proposed line abandonment other than that information previously submitted. But, if any additional information is requested, CSO will promptly supply the necessary information.

EXHIBIT 1

DOCKET No. AB-979 (S~~h~~ X)
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION IN
HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

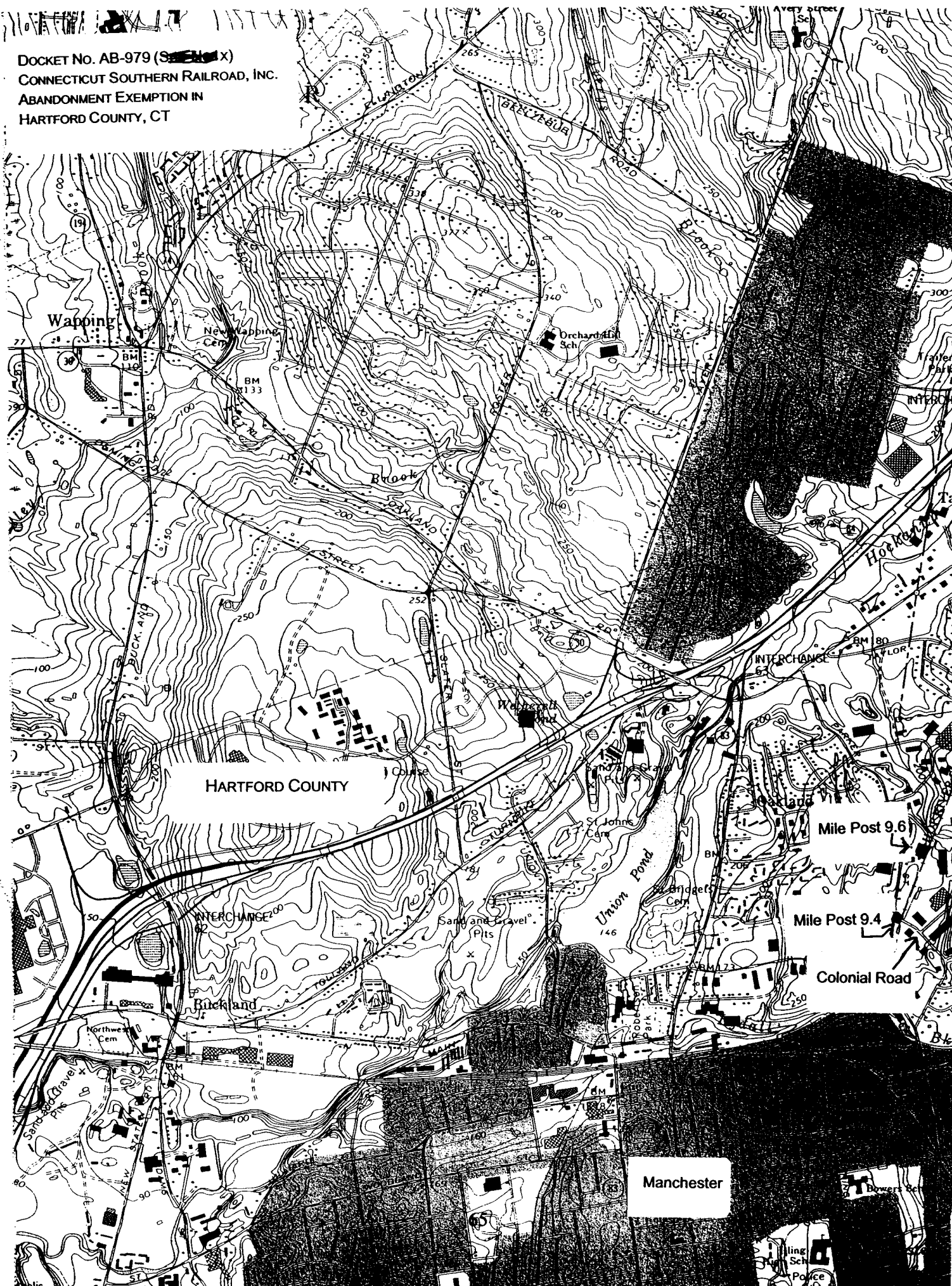
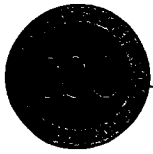


EXHIBIT 2



CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

191 Park Avenue • East Hartford, CT • 06108 • Phone: 860.291.1700 • Fax: 860.291.1701

May 20, 2005

Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Docket No. 979 (~~Sub-No. 1X~~), *Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Hartford County, CT*

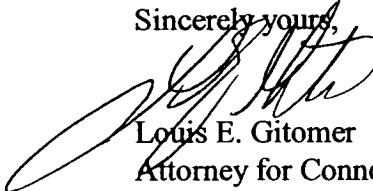
Dear Madam/Sir:

On or about June 9, 2005, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption seeking authority for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to abandon a 942-foot long stub end rail line in Manchester, CT between milepost 9.4 (Station 5673+42 on the north side of Colonial Drive) and the end of the line at milepost 9.6 (Station 5664+00), all in Hartford County, CT.

Attached is a Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area. We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent historic analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's historic review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone 202-565-1538 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 1X).

Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks. Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the historic impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact our representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Louis E. Gitomer who may be contacted by telephone at 202-638-3307, email at lgitomer@dc.bjllp.com, or mail at Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Sincerely yours,



Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure

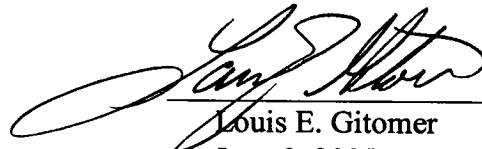
EXHIBIT 3

A copy of the USGS map was included in the copy of the Historic Report served on the Connecticut Historical Commission, but is not included with this filing.

**HISTORIC REPORT
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(c), the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the Historic Report in Docket No. AB-979 (~~Sub No. 1X~~) was mailed via first class mail on May 20, 2005, to the following party:

Connecticut Historical Commission
59 South Prospect Street
Hartford, CT 06106



Louis E. Gitomer
June 9, 2005