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BY HAND

July 27, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUL 27 2005

Part of
Public Record

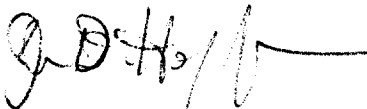
RE: STB Docket No. AB-441 (Sub-No. 4X), San Pedro
Railroad Operating Company, LLC-Abandonment
Exemption-In Cochise County, AZ,

Dear Mr. Williams:

I am writing on behalf of San Pedro Railroad Operating Company (SPROC), in connection with the above-captioned proceeding. On July 14, 2005, Chemical Lime Company filed a "Statement in Opposition to San Pedro Railroad Operating Company, LLC's Petition for Exemption." By this letter, I am advising the Board that it regards Chemical Lime's filing as a protest and that it will respond on August 3, within the normal 20 day reply period.

Please date stamp and return one copy of this letter.

Sincerely yours,


John D. Heffner

Enclosures:

cc: David Parkinson
All parties
David Konschnik, Esq.