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Via Telefacsimile (202-565-9004) and First Class Mail

September 8, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary

Surface Transportation Board

1925 K. Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 257X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption - In Blackford County, IN - Request for Extension of Time to Negotiate Trail Use and Initial Appearance.

Dear Mr. Williams:

Please be advised that I am authorized to represent the Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. ("ITF"), address P. O. Box 402, Indianapolis, IN 46206-0402 in Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 257X) filed by the Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

The Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. is continuing its negotiations with the Norfolk Southern Railway Company for an interim trail use agreement with respect to the railroad corridor in Blackford County, Indiana, which is subject to this docket.

Due to personal tragedy, the ITF has failed to previously file for an extension of time. However, legal counsel for the Norfolk Southern Railway Company has no objection to the granting of an additional 180 day extension. Negotiations have also not reached an impasse and the parties are both negotiating in good faith towards the consummation of an agreement. The ITF is therefore requesting an additional 180 days to complete its negotiations with the Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

Sincerely,

  
Timothy E. Peterson

**FILED**

SEP 16 2005

cc: James R. Paschall  
Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Three Commercial Place  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

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Via Telefacsimile (202-565-9004) and First Class Mail

September 9, 2005

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

RE: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 257X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption - In Blackford County, IN - Supplement to Request for Extension of Time to Negotiate Trail Use and Initial Appearance.

Dear Mr. Williams:

This letter is in response to communications from your staff regarding the Indiana Trail Fund, Incorporated's (ITF) request for an extension of time to negotiate a trail use exemption in the above referenced docket.

In my communications with James R. Paschall prior to filing the request, he confirmed that the abandonment of the railroad right of way subject to the above referenced docket had not been consummated. Please use this information to supplement the ITF's request for an extension of time.

Sincerely,

Timothy E. Peterson

cc: James R. Paschall  
Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Three Commercial Place  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241