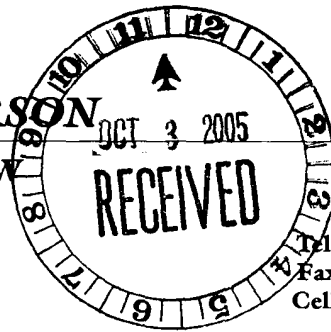




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September 26, 2005

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
OCT 3 2005
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Public Record

Re: Florida West Coast Railroad Company, Inc. – Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service – In Alachua and Gilchrist Counties, Florida – Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-347 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

This letter is intended to serve as Florida West Coast Railroad Company, Inc.'s ("FWCR") request for an extension of the consummation date in the above-captioned abandonment proceeding. In accordance with the Board's decision served on June 14, 2004, FWCR the consummation date for this abandonment was originally June 14, 2005. The FWCR sought and the Board approved an extension of that deadline until September 14, 2005. FWCR hereby requests a further extension of that date until March 14, 2006. Although interest in railbanking this line has been expressed, the parties have been unable to finalize discussions and no Interim Trails Use Condition is presently in place. Nevertheless, CSX Transportation, which owns the underlying fee interest in the line segment, is continuing to have meaningful and productive negotiations with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection concerning the sale of the line segment. The requested extension will facilitate those discussions and, thus, serve an important public purpose.

While seeking to accommodate these negotiations, FWCR also wants to ensure that it does not loose the ability to exercise the abandonment authority while further trail discussions continue. As a result, FWCR requests an extension of the consummation date in the above-captioned proceeding. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Anderson

cc: Mr. Clyde S. Forbes (FWCR)
Louis Gitomer, Esquire