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**City of Marion**

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December 21, 2005

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street NW – Room 711  
Washington, DC 20423



RE: STB Docket No. AB-314 (Sub-No 2X)  
Chicago Central & Pacific Railroad – Abandonment – Linn County, Iowa

Dear Mr. Williams:

On October 25, 2002, the Surface Transportation Board (STB) entered into a decision and served notice with respect to interim trail use/rail banking of the captioned abandonment, subject to public use trail, environmental and standard employee protective conditions. On October 13, 2005, the STB concurred with the City of Marion's request to extend the interim trail use/rail banking of the subject abandonment until December 31, 2005.

The parties are still in active negotiations but they will not be concluded by the December 31 timeline.

Accordingly, the City of Marion, Iowa, respectfully requests an additional time extension to March 31, 2006 regarding interim trail use/rail banking of the subject abandonment within the corporate limits of the City of Marion, Iowa. We have notified the railroad regarding this extension request.

Please feel free to contact City Manager Jeff Schott at 319-377-1581 if you have any questions or need additional information regarding this request.

Sincerely,

  
John B. Nieland, Mayor

JBN:st

attachment

cc: Michael J. Barron, Jr., Counsel, Canadian National Railroad  
Art Spiros, Canadian National Railroad  
Nancy J. Burns, Iowa Department of Transportation  
John Hey, Iowa Department of Transportation  
Troy Siefert, Iowa Department of Transportation

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