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March 27, 2006

Mr. Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street Northwest
Washington, D. C., 20423-0001

Ref. AB 33 (Sub No. 153X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

We are asking for an additional period of time (180 days) in which to complete negotiations for the acquisition of the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way commonly referred to as the southern segment of the Oskaloosa Subdivision, between Mileposts 315.1 and 322.9 in Monroe County, Iowa.

Negotiations with the Union Pacific Railroad are nearing completion and are expected to be finalized well within the 180 day time period requested. The Iowa Department of Transportation has joined us in these negotiations and the Department is expected to take title when the negotiations are completed. At that time the Department will file a statement of Willingness to Assume Responsibility, if required to do so.

The Union Pacific has not gone through the abandonment procedure and has verbally committed to continuing these negotiations. We are sending a copy of this letter to both the Chicago and Omaha offices of the Union Pacific Railroad, asking that they notify you of their agreement to continue these negotiations.

We are also forwarding 10 copies of this letter to the Surface Transportation Board.

Sincerely,

Tom F. Neenan