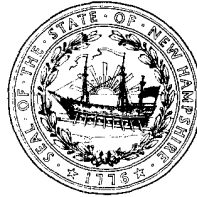


**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

33 CAPITOL STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

KELLY A. AYOTTE
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Orville B. Fitch, II

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 22, 2006



VIA FACSIMILE (202-565-9002) AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Honorable Vernon Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, NW, Room 504
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Docket No. AB-871X
State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation ("NHDOT")
Abandonment
Verified Notice of Exemption
Lakeport Spur – Belknap County, New Hampshire

Dear Secretary Williams:

I have been notified by the Surface Transportation Board that the Notice of Exemption filed by the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Bureau of Rail and Transit, filing date is March 14, 2006. As such, the Bureau of Rail and Transit recognizes that the consummation date for Docket No. AB-871X is May 3, 2006.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated. If I can be of any further assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephen G. LaBonte".
Stephen G. LaBonte
Assistant Attorney General
Transportation & Construction Bureau
(603) 271-3675

SGL/sed
cc: Jeanne Saffan-Grill, Esquire
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