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May 18, 2006

Hon. Vernon Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20423

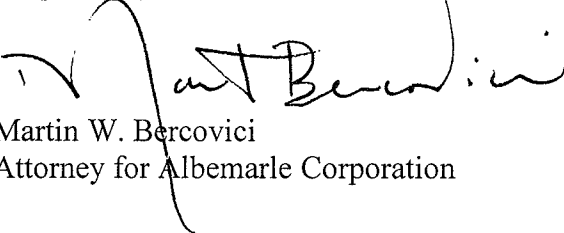
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Re: Albemarle Corporation v. The Louisiana and North West Railroad Company,
STB Docket No. 42097

Dear Secretary Williams:

Albemarle Corporation has received a Motion to Dismiss filed by The Louisiana and North West Railroad Company in the above-captioned proceeding. Albemarle intends to avail itself of its right, under Section 1104.13(a) of the Board's rules, to submit a reply to said motion. The Board, however, in a Decision served May 2, 2006 ordered this proceeding to be held in abeyance pending the conclusion of the rulemaking in STB Ex Parte No. 657 (Sub-No. 1). The only exceptions to the Board's order holding the proceeding in abeyance were for LNW to file an answer to the complaint and for LNW to respond to Albemarle's request to consolidate this proceeding with Docket No. 42096. In accordance with the Board's order, Albemarle will await the conclusion of the STB Ex Parte No. 657 (Sub-No. 1) proceeding to submit its Reply.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin W. Bercovici
Attorney for Albemarle Corporation

cc: Edward J. Fishman, Esq.

Attorney for The Louisiana and North West Railroad Company (via electronic mail)