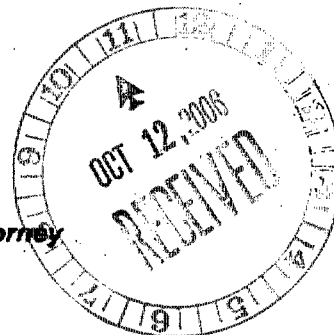




Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Law Department  
Three Commercial Place  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

217794

**James R. Paschall**  
**Senior General Attorney**



Writer's Direct Dial Number

(757) 629-2759  
fax (757) 533-4872

October 12, 2006

via fax 202 565-9004  
and original and 10 copies via mail

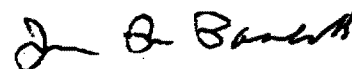
Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 275X), Norfolk Southern Railway  
Company – Abandonment Exemption – In Gaston County, NC

Dear Mr. Williams:

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) consents to the Board's issuance of a trail use negotiation condition with respect to the abandonment of the portion of the subject line between Mileposts HG-45.0 and HG-46.8 as requested by the City of Gastonia in its letter to the Board dated October 2, 2006. The City does not include a 0.2-mile segment of the subject line between Mileposts HG-46.8 and HG-47.0 in its request. NSR will advise the Board of its disposition of this segment of the line in a further letter at a later date. NSR does not object to the City's further request for imposition of a public use condition with respect to the line.

Very truly yours,

  
James R. Paschall

cc via fax 704-854-6607  
Ms. Melissa Magee  
City of Gastonia  
181 South Street  
P. O. Box 1748  
Gastonia, NC 28053-1748

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