

THE
TRUST
for
PUBLIC
LAND



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January 19, 2007

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20423

Re: **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION** – Docket No. AB-1081X, San
Pedro Railroad Operating Company, LLC – Abandonment in
Cochise County, AZ.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

San Pedro Railroad Operating Company, LLC (SPROC) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – Exempt Abandonments, to abandonment approximately 76.2-mile railroad line in Cochise County, AZ, as follows (1) the Bisbee Branch, between milepost 1085.0 at Bisbee Junction and milepost 1090.6 at Bisbee, a distance of 5.6 miles; (2) the Douglas Branch (a) between milepost 1097.3 near Paul Spur and milepost 1106.5 near Douglas, a distance of 9.2 miles, (b) between milepost 1055.8 near Charleston and milepost 1097.3 near Paul Spur, a distance of 41.5 miles, and (c) between milepost 1040.15 near Curtis and milepost 1055.8 near Charleston, a distance of 19.9 miles.

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) filed a request for a Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) and for a public use condition regarding the right of way by letter dated January 26, 2006, to permit TPL to negotiate an agreement with SPROC for purchase of its subject right of way for trail use. SPROC responded to TPL's request by letter filed on July 20, 2006, indicating that it was willing to negotiate for trail use with TPL.

On July 25, 2006, the Surface Transportation Board (STB) found that TPL's request complied with the requirements of 49 CFR 1152.29. The STB imposed a public use condition, and issued a NITU for a period of 180 days (i.e. until January 22, 2007) for the parties to negotiate an interim trail use/rail banking agreement.

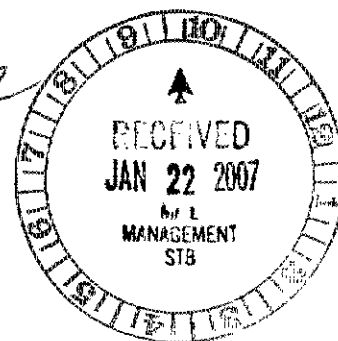
TPL and SPROC are in the process of completing negotiations of an option for TPL's purchase of the portions of the subject right of way that is owned by SPROC in the Douglas Branch as follows: (a) between milepost 1040.15 near Curtiss and milepost 1055.8 near Charleston, a distance of 19.9 miles and (b) between milepost 1055.8 near Charleston and (approximately) milepost 1074.3 at the intersection of the rail line with State Highway 92, a distance of approximately 18.5 miles, (collectively the "Subject Right of Way"). For clarification, this Subject Right of Way excludes portions of the railroad line under the original abandonment and NITU filing described as (1) the Bisbee Branch, between milepost 1085.0 at Bisbee Junction and milepost 1090.6 at Bisbee, a distance of 5.6 miles, and (2) portions of the subject Douglas Branch, specifically (a) between milepost 1097.3 near Paul Spur and milepost 1106.5 near Douglas, a distance of 9.2 miles and (b) between approximately milepost 1074.3 at the intersection with State Highway 92 and milepost 1097.3 near Paul Spur, a distance of approximately 23 miles. SPROC has indicated to TPL that it desires to terminate those portions of rail shown in the preceding sentence, and not have them subject to further NITU.

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Additional time is needed for the parties to negotiate an option agreement for the property in the Subject Right of Way.

Therefore, TPL respectfully requests a 30-day extension of the NITU on the 38.4-mile railroad line described as the Subject Right of Way. A map depicting the Subject Right of Way is included with this request.

Respectfully submitted,

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

By: L. Friedland
Aaron Friedland
Regional Counsel

Encl.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have on this 19th day of January, 2007 caused a copy of the January 19, 2007 letter **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION** – Docket No. AB-1081X, San Pedro Railroad Operating Company, LLC – Abandonment in Cochise County, AZ to be served by express mail on the following parties:

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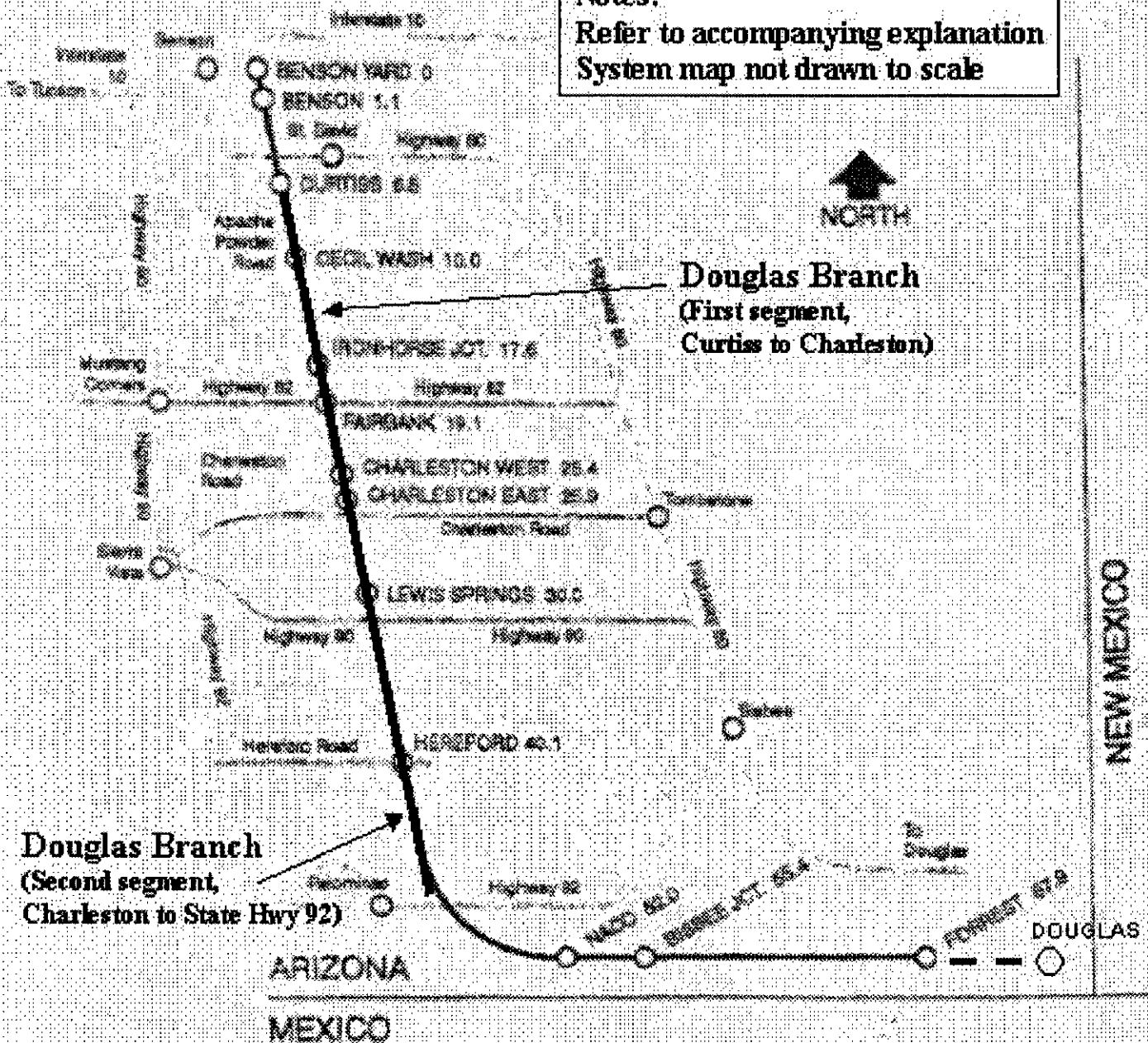
Aaron Friedland
Regional Counsel
The Trust for Public Land

SAN PEDRO & SOUTHWESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

SYSTEM MAP

Notes:

Refer to accompanying explanation
System map not drawn to scale



**EXPLANATION OF
SAN PEDRO & SOUTHWESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY SYSTEM MAP
FOR REQUEST OF EXTENSION OF
NOTICE OF INTERIM RAIL USE**

The attached system map shows the rail right-of-way for which extension of Interim Trail Use has been requested in The Trust for Public Land's ("TPL") letter to the Surface Transportation Board dated January 19, 2007. The mileage figures on the system map show the rail carrier's mileage starting from the connection with main rail line at Benson.

Description of Subject Rail Right of Way

The "Subject Right of Way" referred to in TPL's letter dated January 19, 2007 to the Surface Transportation Board is a portion of the Douglas Branch. The first segment extends between milepost 1040.15 near Curtiss and milepost 1055.8 near Charleston, a distance of 19.9 miles. The second segment extends between milepost 1055.8 near Charleston and approximately milepost 1074.3 at the intersection of the rail line with State Highway 92, a distance of 18.5 miles.

Correlation – Rail Carrier Mileage Distances (on attached System Map) to Official Mileposts as described in request

Point near Curtiss: Near Rail Carrier 6.5 = Milepost 1040.15
Charleston: Rail Carrier 25.9 = Milepost 1055.8
State Highway 92: Rail Carrier 44.4 = Milepost 1074.3