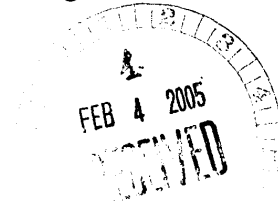




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VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

February 3, 2005

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

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 405X); The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Pawnee, Nebraska and Endicott, Nebraska

Dear Secretary Williams:

On November 12, 2003, BNSF filed a Petition For Exemption seeking authority to abandon or discontinue service of approximately 59.23 miles of railroad line between milepost 57.80, near Pawnee, and milepost 117.03, near Endicott, in Jefferson, Gage, and Pawnee Counties, Nebraska. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 68420, 68323, 68381, 68466, 68310, 68415, 68342, 68352, and 68350. By decision served March 1, 2004, the STB granted the authority to abandon effective as of March 31, 2004. The abandonment consummation date is March 1, 2005.

Winter weather conditions have hampered the ability to conduct salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF requests an extension of the consummation deadline until December 31, 2005.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 347-8667.

Sincerely,

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

SLS/js

cc: James Gallegos
Jerry Johnson
Richard Batie
Randy Acosta
Dalen Wintermute

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