

BNSF

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VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

May 13, 2004

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

MAY 17 2004

Part of
Public Record



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Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 404X); The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company Abandonment between Blue Hill and Bladen, in Webster County, Nebraska

Dear Secretary Williams:

On May 15, 2003, BNSF filed a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon or discontinue service between BNSF milepost 87.02, near Blue Hill, and BNSF milepost 96.30, near Bladen, in Webster County, Nebraska, a total distance of 9.28 miles. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 68928 and 68930. The STB authorized the abandonment to be effective on July 4, 2003. A notice of consummation is required to be filed on or before June 4, 2004.

BNSF is in the process of scheduling this line for salvage. Due to scheduling constraints, BNSF requests that the consummation date for this abandonment be extended until December 6, 2004.

Sincerely,

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

SLS/js

cc: James Gallegos
Richard Batie
Peter Luedtke
John Sims