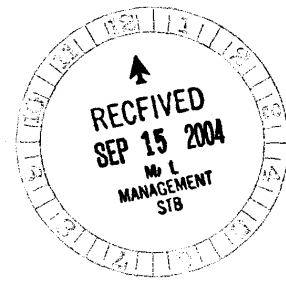


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September 8, 2004



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

Subject: Docket No. AB-325 (Sub-No. 2X), Florida Midland Railroad Company –
Abandonment Exemption – In Sumter and Lake Counties, Florida

Dear Secretary Williams:

By decision dated June 13, 2002, in the above captioned matter, the Board granted a notice of interim trail use allowing the parties until December 10, 2002 to reach an agreement. Additional extensions of time have been granted until October 2, 2004 to allow for property purchase to occur. The City has completed all acquisition due diligence requirements. Negotiations regarding a mitigation plan for areas with elevated arsenic concentrations are nearly complete. Final resolution of the environmental issues is expected soon and a closing date on the property will then be set. The City hereby requests an additional two month time extension in order to conclude the acquisition of this property.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ron Stock
City Manager

cc: Lora L. Bailey, PE, Interim Deputy City Manager

John P. Levine, President, Pinsky Railroad Company, 53 Southampton Rd.
Westfield, MA 01085

Bruce McMahon, Regional Manager, CSX Real Property, 201 W. Bay Street, Suite 800,
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Doug Hattaway, Trust for Public Land, 306 North Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301-
7622



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