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July 17, 2003

VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

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

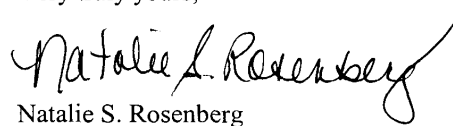


**Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 638X)
CSX Transportation, Inc. - Abandonment
Exemption in Knox County, Ohio**

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed are the original and ten (10) copies of the Publisher's Affidavit referred to in CSX Transportation, Inc.'s Petition of Exemption filed on July 11, 2003, in the above-captioned matter. As you can see from the Affidavit, the public notice of the Petition for Exemption was published on July 10, 2003, in *The Mount Vernon News* in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

Very truly yours,


Natalie S. Rosenberg

NSR/pkw

Enclosures

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUL 18 2003

Part of
Public Record

State of Ohio, Knox County, ss.

Personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for Knox County, Ohio, Bonnie J. Rice, for publishers of THE MOUNT VERNON NEWS, 18 E. Vine Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio, who being duly sworn, says that the annexed advertisement was published in The MOUNT VERNON NEWS, a newspaper printed and of general circulation, in said county and state, once a week on same day of week

for one ^{time} ~~consecutive weeks~~ commencing on the

10th day July A.D.,

2003 Bonnie J. Rice

Fees \$66.10 Paid 7/08/03 by credit card

Before me this 10th day of July A.D. 2003

Manlynn Kaye Hunkeler

Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio
My Commission Expires 8/17/2004

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

STB Docket No. AB-55
(Sub-No.638X)

Notice of Petition for Exemption to Abandon a Line of Railroad

CSX Transportation, Inc. hereby gives notice that on or about July 11, 2003, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a petition for exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903, et seq., permitting the abandonment of a line of railroad in the Midwest Region, known as its Louisville Division, Lake Erie Subdivision, extending from railroad Milepost BQ 25.90 at Mt. Vernon to Milepost BQ 32.27 at Fredericktown in Knox County, Ohio, a distance of 6.37 miles, which traverses through United States Postal service Zip Codes 43050 and 43019. The proceeding has been docketed as No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 638X).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Analysis will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 60 days after the filing of the petition for abandonment exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 30 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to SEA, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling SEA at (202)565-1526.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service



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