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VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 700
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

APR 02 2004

Part of
Public Record

April 1, 2004

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Re: **STB Finance Docket No. 34479**
Arkansas Midland Railroad Company, Inc. - Alternative
Rail Service - Line of Delta Southern Railroad, Inc.

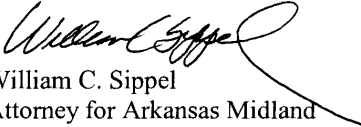
Dear Secretary Williams:

In its order served March 19, 2004 in the above-captioned proceeding, the Board authorized Arkansas Midland Railroad Company, Inc. ("AKMD") to perform alternative rail service on a Union Pacific Railroad Company-owned line between Dermott and Warren, Arkansas. The Board's order provides that AKMD may commence operations once it certifies to the Board that the line has been repaired and can be operated safely.

Enclosed for filing with the Board is a Certification by AKMD's General Manager certifying that repairs to the track have been made and that the line currently meets and will be maintained and operated by AKMD in conformance with the Federal Railroad Administration's track safety standards for excepted track set forth at 49 CFR § 213.4 or such higher track standards as AKMD may adopt. AKMD expects to commence providing rail service on the line on Monday, April 6, 2004.

An original and ten copies of this letter are enclosed for filing with the Board.

Respectfully submitted,


William C. Sippel
Attorney for Arkansas Midland
Railroad Company

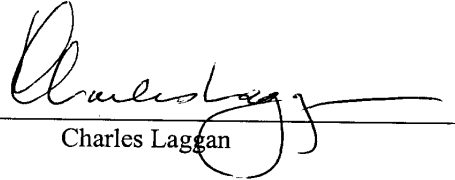
WCS/pj
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Melvin F. Clemens, Jr.
John D. Heffner, Esq.
Robert T Opal, Esq.
Mr. David A. Weisel

CERTIFICATION

I, Charles Laggan, Vice President and General Manager for the Arkansas Midland Railroad Company, Inc. ("AKMD") hereby certify that repairs to the tracks on the Dermott-Warren, Arkansas rail line ("the Line") necessary to restore reasonably a dequate and safe rail service on the Line were completed on April 1, 2004, that AKMD has designated the Line as "excepted track," that the Line currently meets the FRA's track safety standards for "excepted track" set forth at 49 C.F.R. § 213.4 and that the Line will be maintained and operated by AKMD as "excepted track" in conformance with such standards or such higher track standards as AKMD may adopt.

Dated at Malvern, Arkansas, this 1st day of April, 2004.



Charles Laggan