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RICHARD A. ALLEN

August 19, 2002



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BY HAND

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

AUG 20 2002

Part of
Public Record

**Re: Finance Docket No. 34002; Petition of Alamo North Texas Railroad
For An Exemption Under 49 U.S.C. § 10502 from the Requirements of
49 U.S.C. § 10901**

Dear Mr. Williams:

On November 16, 2001, the Board conditionally approved the petition of Alamo North Texas Railroad Corporation to exempt the operation and construction of a 2.25 mile line of railroad subject to the completion of environmental review.

The fairly extensive environmental review process in this case has now been completed. On April 12, 2002, the Section of Environmental Analysis issued an Environmental Assessment (EA), which found that the proposed project would have no significant environmental impacts if certain mitigation conditions were implemented. SEA conducted a further review in response to comments on the EA filed by seven parties, and in a Post Environmental Assessment issued on July 30, 2002, SEA modified the recommended mitigation conditions in certain respects and again concluded that the project would have no significant environmental impacts if the modified conditions were implemented.

I am writing on behalf of petitioner Alamo North to state that petitioner has no objection to the conditions recommended by SEA, as modified by its July 30, 2002 Post Environmental Assessment, and wishes to commence construction of the line as soon as possible. Alamo North therefore respectfully requests the Board to issue a final decision as soon as possible making the

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exemption conditionally granted last November final and effective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" being more prominent and the last name "Allen" following in a similar style.

Richard A. Allen

Attorney for Alamo North Texas Railroad
Company

cc: Victoria Rutson (by fax)
David M. Konschnik (by fax)
John E. Skogland, Esq.