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Via Telefacsimile (202-565-9004) and First Class Mail

September 8, 2005

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

SEP 9 2005

Part of
Public Record

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

RE: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 257X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption - In Blackford County, IN - Request for Extension of Time to Negotiate Trail Use and Initial Appearance.

Dear Mr. Williams:

Please be advised that I am authorized to represent the Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. ("ITF"), address P. O. Box 402, Indianapolis, IN 46206-0402 in Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 257X) filed by the Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

The Indiana Trails Fund, Inc. is continuing its negotiations with the Norfolk Southern Railway Company for an interim trail use agreement with respect to the railroad corridor in Blackford County, Indiana, which is subject to this docket.

Due to personal tragedy, the ITF has failed to previously file for an extension of time. However, legal counsel for the Norfolk Southern Railway Company has no objection to the granting of an additional 180 day extension. Negotiations have also not reached an impasse and the parties are both negotiating in good faith towards the consummation of an agreement. The ITF is therefore requesting an additional 180 days to complete its negotiations with the Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

Sincerely,


Timothy E. Peterson

cc: James R. Paschall
Norfolk Southern Corporation
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

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CONFIDENTIAL FACSIMILE FORM

DATE:

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FAX NO.:

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RECIPIENT:

Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Sec

SENDER:

Timothy E. Peterson

RE:

STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub No. 257X)
Norfolk Southern Railway Company...

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