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U.S. Legal Affairs

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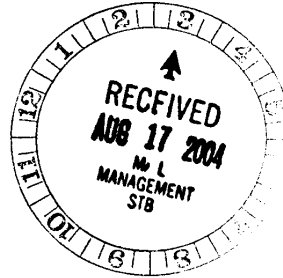
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August 17, 2004

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



Re: STB Docket No. AB-43 (Sub-No. 173X), Illinois Central
Railroad Company— Petition for Exemption for
Abandonment in Forrest County, Mississippi

Dear Secretary Williams:

Illinois Central Railroad Company agrees to extend the NITU an additional 60 days in the above-referenced proceeding.

Ten copies of this letter are enclosed. Feel free to call me if you have questions.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel for Illinois Central
Railroad Company

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
AUG 17 2004

Encl.

cc: Stone Barefield, Counsel (via fax 601/450-5260)
Josephine Gomillion, STB (via fax 202/565-9004)

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FROM IC RAILROAD LAW DEPT