

LAW OFFICES OF
LOUIS E. GITOMER, LLC

LOUIS E. GITOMER
Lou@lgraillaw.com

MELANIE B. YASBIN
Melanie@lgraillaw.com
410-296-2205

600 BALTIMORE AVENUE, SUITE 301
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-4022
(410) 296-2250 • (202) 466-6532
FAX (410) 332-0885

July 16, 2018

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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
July 16, 2018
Part of
Public Record

RE: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 694X), CSX Transportation, Inc.–
Abandonment Exemption–in McMinn County, TN**

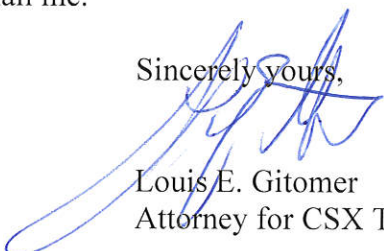
Dear Ms. Brown:

By letter filed July 13, 2018, the City of Athens, TN, on behalf of McMinn County, TN (the “County”) requested that the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”) extend the time period by 180 days for the County to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking with CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) for a portion of the Southern Region, Huntington-West Division, KD Subdivision between Englewood, milepost OKW 327.0 and milepost OKW 328.47, including both spurs located after OKW 332 (the “Line”).

In *CSX Transportation, Inc.-Abandonment Exemption-in McMinn County, Tenn.*, STB Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 694X) (STB served February 8, 2018), the Board extended the period to negotiate interim trail use/rail banking to July 27, 2018. CSXT has not consummated the abandonment of the Line. By this letter, CSXT agrees to an extension of the negotiation period requested by the County until January 23, 2019. As provided in 49 C.F.R. §1152.29(e)(2), the extension of the trail negotiation period until January 23, 2019, creates a regulatory barrier to consummation of the abandonment, which provides CSXT with an additional 60 days to consummate the abandonment to March 24, 2019, if trail negotiation is unsuccessful. CSXT respectfully requests that the Board confirm that the extension of the consummation period as provided in the regulations applies in this instance.

This letter is being efiled. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours,


Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for CSX Transportation, Inc.

Cc: Mr. Fesmire