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July 14, 2006

Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Branch
1925 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34893

Dear Sirs / Madams:

Please let this letter serve as an official request for a full EPA review of the application filed by The Chicago, Lake Shore and South Bend Railway Company for exemption on June 14, 2006. In requesting a review, I note that the existing railway has not been operated in over twelve years thus re-opening the track will result in a 100% increase in its use. There is an important environmental impact with regard to the operation of the railway along these tracks and a NEPA review would be an important factor to consider in contemplation of the applied for exemption.

I note that if the STB were to approve the exemption prior to the NEPA study, the City of South Bend would be without an opportunity to request the same in the future and believes that the railway operation would have a large impact on the environmental area within the City of South Bend if the exemption were approved. It is important to again stress that this railway has been dormant for at least ten to twelve years, crosses over the St. Joseph River, and through densely populated neighborhoods as well as uninhabited wooded areas within and without the South Bend City limits.

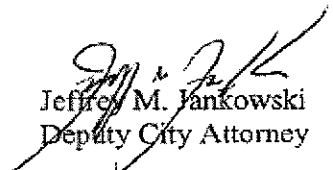
As always, the City of South Bend appreciates the STB's attention to this matter and would appreciate compliance with this request.

I note that this request was made pursuant to 40 CFR and 49 CFR generally, and specifically pursuant to 40 CFR 1500.4(p), 1501.4(a)(2), and 1508.4 as well as 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and 1105.7(d)(5) regarding NEPA.

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Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey M. Jankowski
Deputy City Attorney

JMJ/sra

cc: John D. Heffner, Esq.
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