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EI-20293

June 4, 2013

Ms. Ann D. Begeman, Vice Chairman  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Petition for exemption for the abandonment, AB – 303 (Sub-No. 42X)

Dear Ms. Begeman:

I am writing this letter in support of and to stress the importance of Wisconsin Central Ltd.'s ("WCL") petition for exemption for the abandonment of line of railroad, referred to herein as the United Cooperative Spur, extending from Milepost 97.75 to the end of the line at Milepost 98.08, a distance of approximately 0.3 miles in Denmark, Brown County, Wisconsin.

United Cooperative is the sole shipper along the United Cooperative Spur. The United Cooperative facility in Denmark is the end of WCL's mainline and accordingly, there is no rail service beyond the United Cooperative facility. United Cooperative is an agriculture business serving over 10,000 patrons in Wisconsin. Our operations include grain, agronomy, energy, and feed.

In recent years, United Cooperative has experienced a significant increase in business, and as a result, a significant demand for an increase in rail services. In order to remain competitive, we are increasingly purchasing in large quantities that demand shipment by rail. As you may be aware, significant cost savings can be achieved for our patrons by building and maintaining a nationally based supply network. Rail allows us not only the purchasing power, but the storage capability to allow us to expand our product offerings throughout Wisconsin.

In its current state, United Cooperative's facility in Denmark, Wisconsin cannot handle this growth, largely due to the fact that our current rail facilities are not large enough to handle such increases in volume. In order to effectively grow, United Cooperative needs to continue to expand its facility and re-develop the property to allow for an increase in rail service. To accomplish this goal, United Cooperative and WCL have come to agreement whereby WCL will convey the very limited track identified above so that United Cooperative can re-develop the

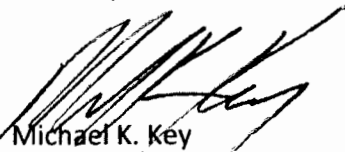
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VICE CHAIRMAN  
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property and rail facilities and make the necessary changes to accommodate the expansion of its business. After the completion of this re-development, WCL will continue to service United Cooperative. Of course, this agreement is contingent upon the Board's approval of WCL's petition for exemption to abandon the United Cooperative Spur and end its common carrier service on this portion of railroad line.

Without the Board's approval of WCL's petition for abandonment of the United Cooperative Spur, United Cooperative cannot expand its business and rail service needs to accommodate the current demands of its clients. With your approval, we will launch a significant expansion in total asset base and hiring. Accordingly, United Cooperative supports WCL's petition to abandon in full. If you need any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for considering our position in support of WCL's abandonment of the United Cooperative Spur. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 920-863-2171. I would be happy to speak with you or members of your staff.

Sincerely,



Michael K. Key  
United Cooperative



N7160 Raceway Road  
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Washington, DC 20423-0001



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