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December 10, 2003



VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20423

Re: **STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1161X) -
Consolidated Rail Corporation - Abandonment
in Vermilion and Champaign Counties, Illinois**

Dear Mr. Williams:

This refers to the trail negotiations in the above captioned matter. The Board granted the earlier request of New York Central Lines, LLC ("NYC") and CSXT Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") to extend the NITU negotiating period until January 30, 2004. In that NYC and CSXT do not believe that the parties will be able to finalize the transaction by that date, NYC and CSXT request an extension until July 30, 2004. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Natalie S. Rosenberg
Natalie S. Rosenberg

NSR/pkw

cc: Lott H. Thomas, Esquire
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