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February 1, 2005

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

Re: STB Docket No. AB-859 (Sub-No. 1X), Pennsylvania Lines LLC –
Abandonment Exemption – in Northampton County, PA, embracing STB
Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 245X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company
– Discontinuance of Service Exemption – in Northampton County, PA,
– Request for Extension of Time to Consummate Abandonment

Dear Mr. Williams:

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), as successor by merger to
Pennsylvania Lines, LLC, hereby requests a one-year extension of time until February
10, 2006, to consummate the abandonment of the line between milepost EK-53.0 at
Hellertown and milepost EK-56.7 at Bethlehem, in Northampton County, PA that was
the subject of the above proceedings. NSR is exploring various options for the long-
term disposition of the line, principally for public or trail use. Consummation of the
abandonment at this time would unduly limit those disposition options.

NSR requests this lengthy extension because long-term plans for the line and
provisions for funding to carry out those plans have not been finalized. The extension
will give greater flexibility to NSR, the City of Bethlehem and any other party interested
in making the most productive future use of this right-of-way without requiring NSR to
request several shorter extensions of time and the Board to process those requests. If
the circumstances change, especially if NSR determines that consummation of the
abandonment should take place at an earlier date, NSR will then advise the Board

Very truly yours,

James R. Paschall