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BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

City of Venice)
Exemption – near Branch Street) AB-863
Yard in St. Louis to McKinley)
Junction, Illinois)



Statement of Willingness to Assume
Financial Responsibility

In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under 16 U.S.C. 1247(d) and 49 CFR 1152.29, Madison County Transit ("MCT" or "Interim Trail User"), is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of (unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability), and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned and operated by City of Venice (Railroad). The property extends from MP 0.55 near Branch Street Yard in St. Louis, MO, to MP 0.0 (Missouri/Illinois state line) to MP 1.45 (eastern city limits of Venice) at McKinley Junction in Illinois, a distance of approximately 2.00 miles, encompassing approximately 0.55 miles in St. Louis, MO, and approximately 1.45 miles in Madison County, IL. The right-of-way is part of a line proposed for abandonment in Docket AB-863.

A map depicting the property is attached.

MCT acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service. A copy of this statement is being served on the railroad on the same date it is being served on the Board.

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Jerry Kane
Managing Director
Madison County Transit
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P. O. Box 7500
Granite City, IL 62040-7500

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DEC 09 2003

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Public Record

Attachment

cc: Charles H. Montange, Esq.
426 NW 162nd Street
Seattle, Washington 98177
(Counsel for City of Venice)



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