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May 21, 2007

BY ELECTRONIC FILING AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary, Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

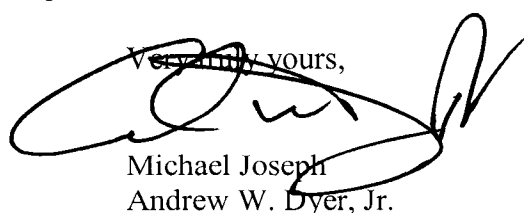
Re: Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company
Abandonment Exemption, Docket No. AB-996X

Dear Mr. Williams:

By order dated March 7, 2007, the Board tolled the time period for Reading Anthracite Company ("RAC") to file an offer of financial assistance in the above-captioned matter until May 30, 2007. RAC and Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company ("RBMN") have since conferred and have agreed to a further tolling of such time period until August 28, 2007, in order to conclude negotiations that would permit the line to remain open.

This further delay has been caused by a separate but underlying contract negotiation between RAC and a third party that must be completed before RAC and RBMN may finalize their arrangement. Once RAC concludes contract negotiations with the third party, RAC and RBMN expect to move quickly in resolving the proposed abandonment. We believe that the parties will be able to resolve this issue within 90 days and therefore respectfully request the Board to issue an Order effecting the agreement of the parties.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. The undersigned is authorized to state that RBMN joins in this request.


Very truly yours,

Michael Joseph
Andrew W. Dyer, Jr.
Counsel for Reading Anthracite Company

cc: Eric M. Hocky, Esquire