



www.cn.ca

Michael J. Barron

17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430-1339

Telephone: 708-332-3954
Fax: 708-332-4361



September 22, 2005

Via Overnight Mail

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), Wisconsin Central Ltd.—
Abandonment Exemption — in Forest County, Wisconsin

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are an original and ten copies of the Verified Notice of Exemption of Wisconsin Central Ltd. dated September 22, 2005 pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50. A check in the amount of \$3,000.00, representing the appropriate fee for this filing, also is enclosed.

One extra copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed as well. Please date stamp this copy to show receipt and return it to me in the enclosed envelope.

The Environmental and Historic Reports for this proceeding have already been filed with the Board. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel for Wisconsin Central Ltd.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

SEP 23 2005

Part of
Public Record

Encls.

FILED

SEP 23 2005

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FEE RECEIVED

SEP 23 2005

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-303 (SUB-NO. 29X)



WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.—
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION — IN FOREST COUNTY, WISCONSIN

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD. PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50

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Public Record

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
CN
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430-1345
708-332-3954

ATTORNEY FOR
WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.

Dated: September 22, 2005

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-303 (SUB-NO. 29X)



WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.—
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION — IN FOREST COUNTY, WISCONSIN

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD. PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50**

Wisconsin Central Ltd. (“WCL”) hereby submits this Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, to abandon its line of railroad starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a total of 4.62 miles. The line is referred to herein as the “Crandon Line”.

In accordance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2), WCL submits the following information:

General Corporation Information: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1)-(2)

WCL is a Class I common carrier by rail which owns and operates approximately 1,800 miles of rail line in four Upper Midwestern states. WCL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian National Railway Company. The complete name and address of WCL is:

Wisconsin Central Ltd.
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430-1345

Relief Sought: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(3)

Pursuant to the Board's class exemption for the abandonment of out-of-service rail lines, codified at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, WCL intends to abandon its line of railroad known as the Crandon Line starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a total of 4.62 miles.

Map: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(4)

A map of the Crandon Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

WCL's Representative: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(7)

WCL's representative to whom correspondence regarding this abandonment should be sent is:

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
CN
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430-1345
708-332-3954

ZIP Codes Traversed: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(8)

The Crandon Line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Code 54520.

Qualification for Class Exemption: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b)

Per the certificate and verification attached hereto as Exhibit B, WCL certifies that no local revenue traffic has moved over the Crandon Line for at least the last two years, there is no overhead traffic on the Crandon Line that would have to be rerouted over other lines, and no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Crandon Line (or a state or local governmental entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service on the proposed

abandonment is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant during the last two years.

Consummation Date: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)

WCL will not consummate the proposed abandonment any earlier than November 30, 2005.

Suitability for Other Public Purposes: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(e)(4)

The Crandon Line right-of-way may be suitable for use as a recreational trail or other similar public purpose. WCL does not believe that the right-of-way would be of interest to the State or any other entity as a highway or mass transportation line or other similar public use because it sits in an area with a developed road system. WCL has received an indication of interest from the Wisconsin Department of Natural resources about converting the Crandon Line to a trail. WCL generally holds good title on the Crandon Line, although some parcels near the southern end may only be right-of-way deed. Based on information in our possession, the Crandon Line does not appear to contain any federally granted right-of-way.

Labor Protection: 49 C.F.R. 1152.50(d)(2)

The level of labor protection applicable in rail line abandonments is that established in *Oregon Short Line Co. — Abandonment — Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

**Certificate of Compliance with Notice Requirements:
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)**

A certificate that the notice of requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152(d)(1) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 have been complied with is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

Environmental and Historic Report: 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8

An Environmental Report and Historic Report, prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8, were already filed with the Surface Transportation Board in this proceeding.

Since submitting the Environmental Report and Historic Report, WCL has received additional correspondence discussed below.

Mr. Richard Snay of the National Geodetic Survey wrote that no geodetic station markers will be affected as a result of the abandonment. His correspondence is attached as Exhibit D.

Ms. Kathleen Knavel of the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, wrote that the abandonment is located outside of the coastal zone and is unlikely to affect coastal uses or resources. A copy of her correspondence is attached as Exhibit E.

The Army Corps of Engineers wrote a letter indicating that the proposed abandonment does not require a Corps permit, as no work will be done in a water of the United States, and no dredged or fill material will be discharged into any water of the United States. A copy of the Corps ' correspondence is attached as Exhibit F.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) sent correspondence indicating a concern of a possible adverse impact of a location known as Keith Siding, a former Native American logging site on the far south end of the abandonment, very close to the Keith Siding road crossing. WCL conducted research and wrote the SHPO back indicating the type of salvage WCL would conduct. In response, the SHPO asked that WCL confirm that "construction will not occur on the original ground surface and be confined to the rail bed." WCL wrote back to the SHPO confirming that such was WCL's intention. Correspondence with the SHPO is attached herein as Exhibit G.

If WCL receives additional correspondence, it will forward copies to the STB.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Michael J. Barron, Jr.
CN
17641 S. Ashland Avenue
Homewood, IL 60430-1345
708-332-3954

ATTORNEY FOR WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.

Dated: September 22, 2005

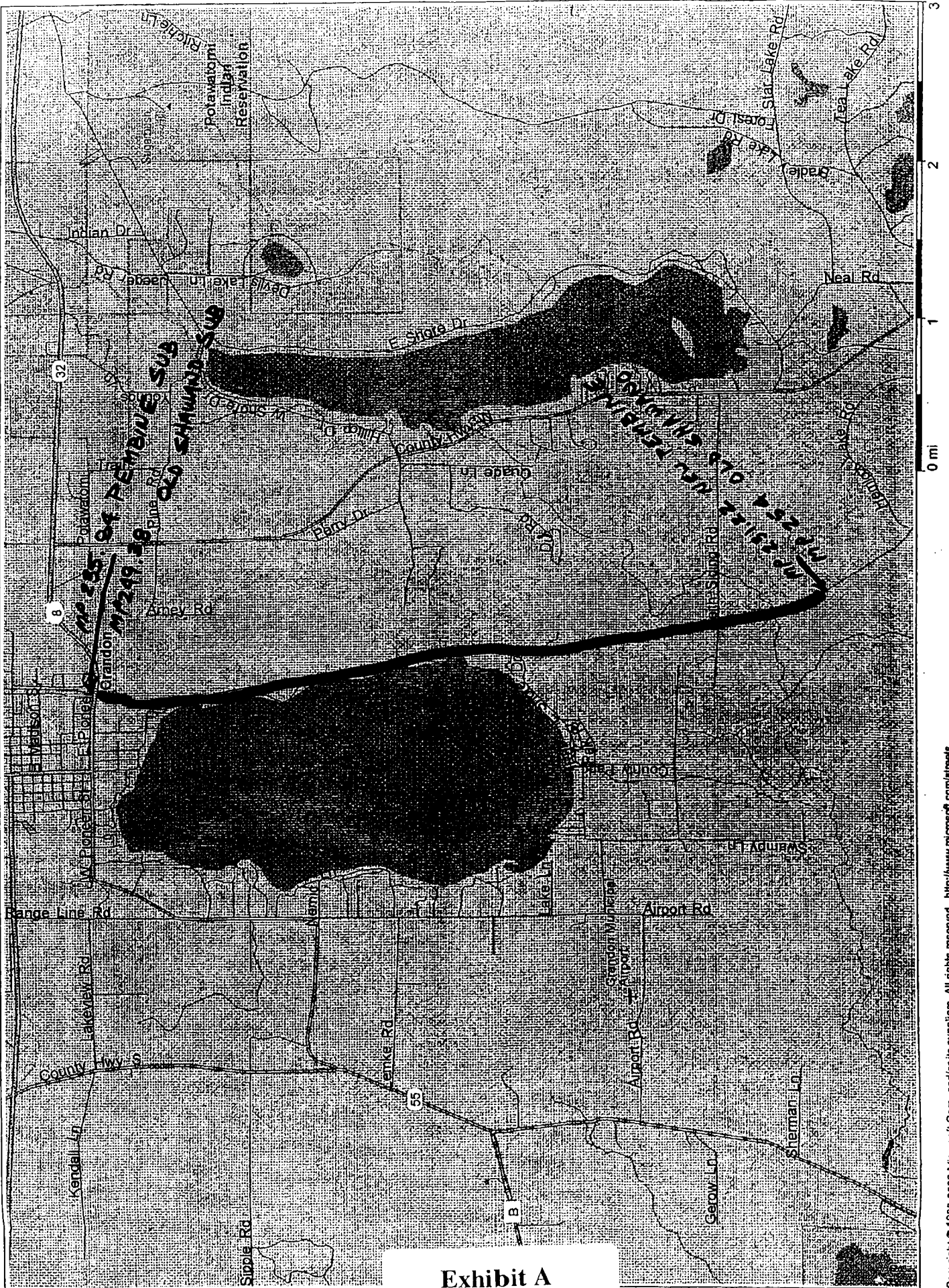


Exhibit A

DOCKET NO. AB-303 (SUB-NO. 29X)

WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD. — ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION —
IN FOREST COUNTY, WISCONSIN

CERTIFICATE AND VERIFICATION

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss
COUNTY OF COOK)

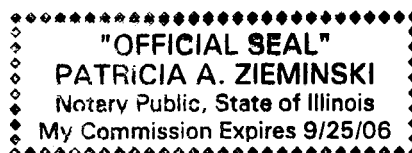
Paul E. Ladue, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. That no local traffic has moved over the line from milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a total of 4.62 miles in Forest County, Wisconsin, for at least two years, and that there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted over other lines; and
2. That no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the subject line (or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line is either pending with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the last two years; and
3. That he has read the foregoing Notice of Exemption, knows the facts therein asserted, and that the same are true as stated.

Paul E. Ladue Date: 9/20/05
Paul E. Ladue
Director - Contracts

Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 20th day of
September, 2005.

Patricia A. Zieminski
Notary Public



CERTIFICATE

I, Michael J. Barron, Jr., an attorney for Wisconsin Central Ltd., hereby certify that, for the proceeding before the Surface Transportation Board known as Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), Wisconsin Central Ltd. — Abandonment Exemption — in Forest County, Wisconsin:

(1) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) have been complied with, to wit: On May 16, 2005, written notice was mailed to the: (a) United States Department of Defense, MTMCTEA, Attn: Railroads for National Defense; (b) Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; (c) National Center for Recreation and Conservation, National Park Service; and (d) Wisconsin Department of Transportation (copies of which are attached hereto as Attachments 1-4).

(2) The notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 have been complied with, to wit: On May 6, 2005, the Environmental Report and Historic Report for this proceeding, which reports have also been filed with the Surface Transportation Board, and the accompanying transmittal letters in the form set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 (a sample of which is attached hereto as Attachment 5) were served by first class mail, postage prepaid, on the parties listed on Attachment 6, which list includes the state clearinghouse and the state historic preservation officer, as required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b) and § 1105.11.

(3) A newspaper notice was published on March 23, 2005, in Forest Republican, a newspaper of general circulation in Forest County, Wisconsin. The notice alerted the public to

the proposed abandonment, to possible reuse alternatives, and to procedures for participating in the STB proceeding. A copy of the notice is attached to this Certificate as Attachment 7.



Michael J. Barron, Jr.

Dated: September 22, 2005

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

May 16, 2005

United States Department of Defense
MTMCTEA
Attn: Railroads for National Defense
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606-2574

Re: Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), Wisconsin Central Ltd.
Notice of Exemption in Forest County, Wisconsin

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Wisconsin Central Ltd. shall on or after May 26, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Forest County, Wisconsin starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a distance of approximately 4.62 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 54520.

The exemption procedures set forth in § 1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over these rights for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on these rights can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 1

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

May 16, 2005

Mr. Dale Bosworth
Chief, Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Re: Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), Wisconsin Central Ltd.
Notice of Exemption in Forest County, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Bosworth:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Wisconsin Central Ltd. shall on or after May 26, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Forest County, Wisconsin starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a distance of approximately 4.62 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 54520.

The exemption procedures set forth in § 1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over these rights for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on these rights can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 2

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

May 16, 2005

Mr. Thomas Ross
Division Chief
National Center for Recreation and Conservation
1201 Eye Street, N.W., 9th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), Wisconsin Central Ltd.
Notice of Exemption in Forest County, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Ross:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Wisconsin Central Ltd. shall on or after May 26, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Forest County, Wisconsin starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a distance of approximately 4.62 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 54520.

The exemption procedures set forth in § 1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over these rights for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on these rights can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 3

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

May 16, 2005

Mr. Ron Adams
Director, Bureau of Railroads and Harbors
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

Re: Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), Wisconsin Central Ltd.
Notice of Exemption in Forest County, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Adams:

This is to inform you that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights), Wisconsin Central Ltd. shall on or after May 26, 2005, file a Notice of Exemption with the Surface Transportation Board for approval to abandon trackage in Forest County, Wisconsin starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub), a distance of approximately 4.62 miles of railroad. Such line runs through U.S. Postal Zip Code 54520.

The exemption procedures set forth in § 1152.50 are being used in this case because no local traffic has moved over these rights for at least two years and any potential overhead traffic on these rights can be rerouted over other lines. Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

ATTACHMENT 4

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

www.cn.ca

May 6, 2005

**Re: Wisconsin Central Ltd. Notice of Exemption for Abandonment—
Forest County, Wisconsin—Docket AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X)**

To Whom It May Concern:

Any time on or after May 26, 2005, Wisconsin Central Ltd. ("WCL") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a railroad line located Forest County, Wisconsin, starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub, near Crandon and ending at the end of track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub) . Enclosed is an Environmental Report and a Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and historical effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental and historical analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental and historic review process, please contact their Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), at the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20423-0001, (202) 565-1545, and refer to the above docket number.

WCL will file the Environmental Report and Historic Report with the STB on or about May 6, 2005. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to the STB (with a copy to the undersigned) would be appreciated within three weeks. Your comments will be considered by the STB in evaluating the environmental and historical impact of the contemplated action.

If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact the undersigned directly at (708) 332-3954 or by mail at the above address.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel for Wisconsin Central Ltd.

Encls.

ATTACHMENT 5

ATTACHMENT 6

Mr. Sherman Banker
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706-1488

Division of Intergovernmental Relations
ATTENTION: Director
Wisconsin Department of Administration
P.O. Box 8944
Madison, WI 53708-8944

Ms. Patricia S Leavenworth
State Conservationist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
8030 Excelsior Dr.
Suite 100
Madison, WI 53717

Mr. Allyn Lepeska
Office of General Counsel
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 115B
P.O. Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

Mr. Edward J. McKay
National Geodetic Survey
National Geodetic & Atmospheric Adm.
1315 East-West Highway, Room 8813
Silver Spring, MN 20910-3282

Mr. William D. Shaddox
Chief, Land Resources Division
National Park Service
1201 Eye St., NW
9th Floor
Washington, DC 20025

Mr. Jon Simonsen
Environmental Review Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Ms. Janet M. Smith
Field Supervisor
U.S. Dept. of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
2661 Scott Tower Drive
New Franken, WI 54229-9565

Mr. R. E. Steffes
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707

Mr. Kenneth A. Westlake
Chief, NEPA Implementation Section
US EPA, Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Mail Code B-19J
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Mr. Robert Whiting
St. Paul District
Army Corps of Engineers Centre
190 Fifth Street East
St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

Mr. Thomas Ross
National Center for Recreation and Conservation
National Park Service
1201 Eye St. NW
9th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Mr. David W. Ziolkowski
Forest County Forest Administration
200 E. Madison Street
Crandon, WI 54520

Mr. Edhard Huettl
County Board Chairman
6116 Evergreen Lane
Wabeno, WI 54566

Ms. Kathleen Knavel
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program
Wisconsin Department of Administration
101 E. Wilson Street, 10th Floor
P.O. Box 8944
Madison, WI 53708-894

NOTICE

WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD. gives notice that on or after April 21, 2005, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments, permitting the abandonment of an approximately 4.62 mile line of railroad starting at MP 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a MP 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub) and ending at MP 231.22 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a MP 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub) near Crandon, Forest County, Wisconsin, which line traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Code 54520. The proceeding will be docketed as AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at (202) 565-1545.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant's representative. [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Commission's Office of Congressional and Public Services at (202) 565-1592. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: Michael J. Barron, Jr., (708) 332-3954 at 17641 S. Ashland Avenue, Homewood, IL 60430.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
National Geodetic Survey
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

MAY 12 2005

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Rutson:

The area in question on the map with the Environmental and Historic Reports for the proposed rail line abandonment of the Wisconsin Central Ltd., the Crandon Line, for approximately 4.62 miles of rail line starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub (f/k/a milepost 249.38 on the old Shawano Sub), near Crandon and ending at the end of the track at milepost 231.22 on the Pembine Sub f/k/a milepost 254.00 on the old Shawano Sub) in Forest County, Wisconsin, STB Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X), has been reviewed within the areas of National Geodetic Survey (NGS) responsibility and expertise and in terms of the impact of the proposed actions on NGS activities and projects.

As a result of this review, no geodetic station markers have been identified that may be affected by the proposed abandonment.

If further information is needed, contact Mr. Frank C. Maida. His address is NOAA, N/NGS2, Room 8736, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282, telephone: 301-713-3198, fax: 301-713-4324, e-mail: Frank.Maida@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Snay
Chief, Spatial Reference System Division

Enclosures

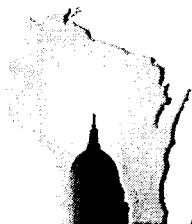
cc: N/NGS1 - G. Mitchell
N/NGS1x1 - D. David Moyer
Michael J. Barron, Counsel for Wisconsin Central Ltd.

EXHIBIT D



Printed on Recycled Paper





**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION**

JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR

MARC J. MAROTTA
SECRETARY

Division of Intergovernmental Relations
101 East Wilson Street, 10th Floor
Post Office Box 8944
Madison, WI 53708-8944
Voice (608) 266-0288
Fax (608) 267-6917 TTY (608) 267-9629

May 26, 2005

Mr. Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel for Wisconsin Central Ltd.
17641 South Ashland Ave.
Homewood, IL 60430

RE: Wisconsin Central Ltd. Notice of Exemption for Abandonment – Forest County, WI
Docket AB-303 (Sub-No. 29X)

Dear Mr. Barron:

Thank you for notifying the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) of the above project. We waive the right to review the project, since it is located outside of the coastal zone and is unlikely to affect coastal uses or resources. Through its Federal Consistency authority, the WCMP reviews federally affiliated projects that are likely to have impacts on the coastal zone, defined as the fifteen counties adjacent to Lake Superior, Green Bay and Lake Michigan.

This does not exempt the proposed project from requiring any other necessary state or local permits or authorizations. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (608) 267-7988.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Knavel
Program and Planning Analyst
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

Cc: Michael Friis, Program Manager
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

EXHIBIT E



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

St. Paul District Corps of Engineers
190 Fifth Street East
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1683

June 14, 2005

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations Division
Regulatory (2005-3380-MOK)

Mr. Michael Barron, Jr.
Wisconsin Central Ltd.
17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

Dear Mr. Barron:

We have reviewed information for the abandonment of the railroad line starting at milepost 235.84 on the Pembine Sub. The project site is in Section 32, T. 36N, R. 13E, Forest County, Wisconsin.

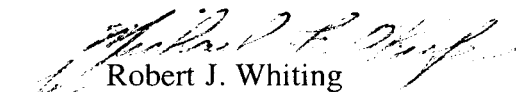
The work proposed at the location stated is not within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers. No work will be done in a navigable water of the United States, and no dredged or fill material, including that incidental to mechanical land clearing, will be discharged in any water of the United States, including wetlands. Therefore, a Department of the Army permit is not required to do this work.

This letter is valid only for the project referenced above. If any change in design, location, or purpose is contemplated, contact this office to avoid doing work that may be in violation of Federal law. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS CONFIRMATION LETTER DOES NOT ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR STATE, LOCAL, OR OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS, SUCH AS THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OR COUNTY.

The decision regarding this action is based on information found in the administrative record which documents the District's decision-making process, the basis for the decision, and the final decision.

If you have any questions, contact Michael O'Keefe in our Stevens Point field office at (715) 345-7911. In any correspondence or inquiries, please refer to the Regulatory number shown above.

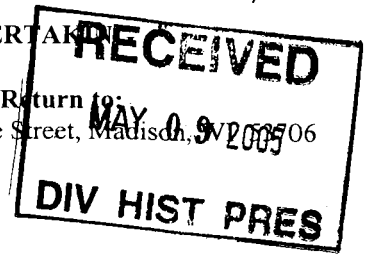
Sincerely,


Robert J. Whiting
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Copy furnished to: Mr. Jim Grafelman, WDNR, Rhinelander

EXHIBIT F

REQUEST FOR SHPO COMMENT AND CONSULTATION ON A FEDERAL UNDERTAKING



one copy with each undertaking for which our comment is requested. Please print or type. Return to: Wisconsin Historical Society, Division of Historic Preservation, Office of Preservation Planning, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706
Please Check All Boxes and Include All of the Following Information, as Applicable.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- ☒ This is a new submittal.
☐ This is supplemental information relating to Case #: _____, and title: _____
☐ This project is being undertaken pursuant to the terms and conditions of a programmatic or other interagency agreement. The title of the agreement is _____
a. Federal Agency Jurisdiction (Agency providing funds, assistance, license, permit): STB
b. Federal Agency Contact Person: Section on Environmental Analysis Phone: 202-565-1545
c. Project Contact Person: Michael J. Barron Phone: 708-332-3954
d. Return Address: 17641 S. Ashland Ave., Homewood, IL Zip Code: 60430
e. Email Address: Michael.Barron@cn.ca
f. Project Name: Wisconsin Central Ltd. Notice of Exemption for Forest County, AB-303 Sub-No. 29X
g. Project Street Address: N/A
h. County: Forest City: near Crandon Zip Code: 54520
i. Project Location: Township N/A, Range N/A, E/W (circle one), Section N/A, Quarter Sections N/A
j. Project Narrative Description—Attach Information as Necessary - See Environmental/Historic Report.
k. Area of Potential Effect (APE). Attach Copy of U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle showing APE. - See Environmental/Historic Report

II. IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

- ☐ Historic Properties are located within the project APE per 36 CFR 800.4. Attach supporting materials.
☒ Historic Properties are not located within the project APE per 36 CFR 800.4. Attach supporting materials. See Environmental/Historic Report.

III. FINDINGS

- ☒ No historic properties will be affected (i.e., none is present or there are historic properties present but the project will have no effect upon them). Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11. See Environmental/Historic Report.
☐ The proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect on one or more historic properties located within the project APE under 36 CFR 800.5. Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11.
☐ The proposed undertaking will result in an adverse effect to one or more historic properties and the applicant, or other federally authorized representative, will consult with the SHPO and other consulting parties to resolve the adverse effect per 36 CFR 800.6. Attach supporting documentation as described at 36 CFR 800.11 with a proposed plan to resolve adverse effect(s).

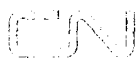
Authorized Signature: Michael J. Barron Date: 5-2-05

Type or print name: Michael J. Barron, Jr. Counsel for WCL

IV. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE COMMENTS

- ☐ Agree with the finding in section III above.
☒ Object to the finding for reasons indicated in attached letter. FR-147 is in project + RCL
☐ Cannot review until information is sent as follows: need to discuss project + state with

Authorized Signature: Sharon Brando Date: 5-26-05



www.cn.ca

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

August 25, 2005

Mr. Sherman Banker
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706-1488

Re: AB 303 (Sub-No. 29X); Salvage Plan

Dear Sherman:

The above-referenced proposed abandonment was adjacent to the Keith Siding Archeological Site in Forest County. Enclosed are maps detailing the location, which is west of the tracks and south of Keith Siding Road. Wisconsin Central is hoping to proceed with the abandonment, and to that end, wants to let the SHPO know what its planned salvage activity would be for this proposed abandonment.

The first step is for a rail-mounted sled to go through and jack up the rail, thus loosening the rail and freeing the spikes. The ties would be pushed to one side of the roadbed, while the rail would be pushed to the opposite side. The area covered by moving the track material to the side would be approximately 6 to 7 feet either side of track centerline for a total width of 12-14 feet. Pushing the track material to either side creates a path along the road bed.

A truck would then proceed down the roadbed and pick up and load the ties and, with the use of the magnet, pick up the rail.

We will not allow the salvage material to be placed in the area south of Keith Siding Road and west of the track.

There will be no grading except in that area 6 to 7 feet either side of centerline where the track is being removed.

Normally, the DNR requires us to remove scrap ties and telegraph poles on the right-of-way. While this does not involve grading, it does require us to move further away from track centerline, and occasionally to dig the ties and poles out of the ground.

Please let us know any concerns the SHPO may have.

Feel free to call me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel

Enc.

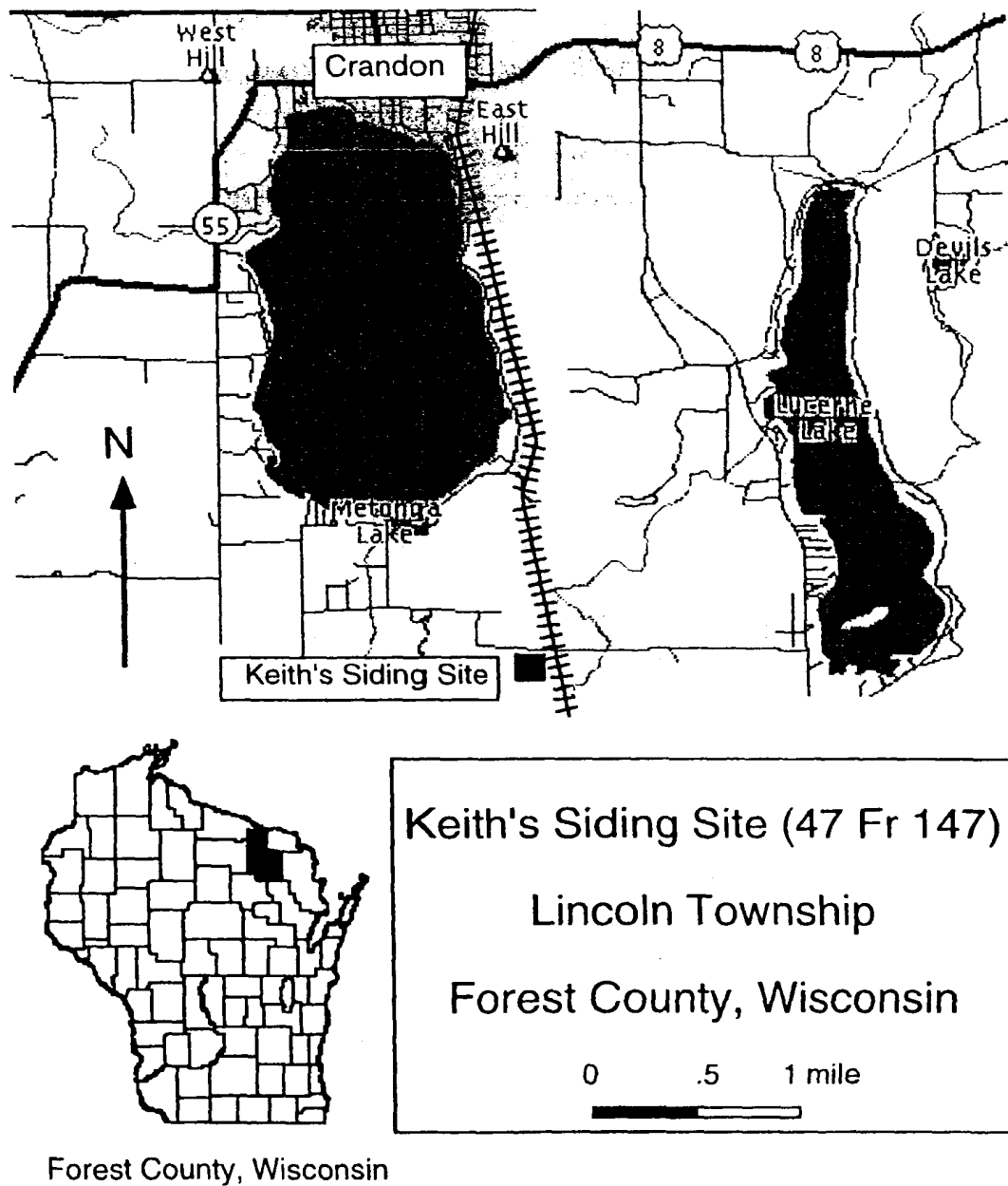
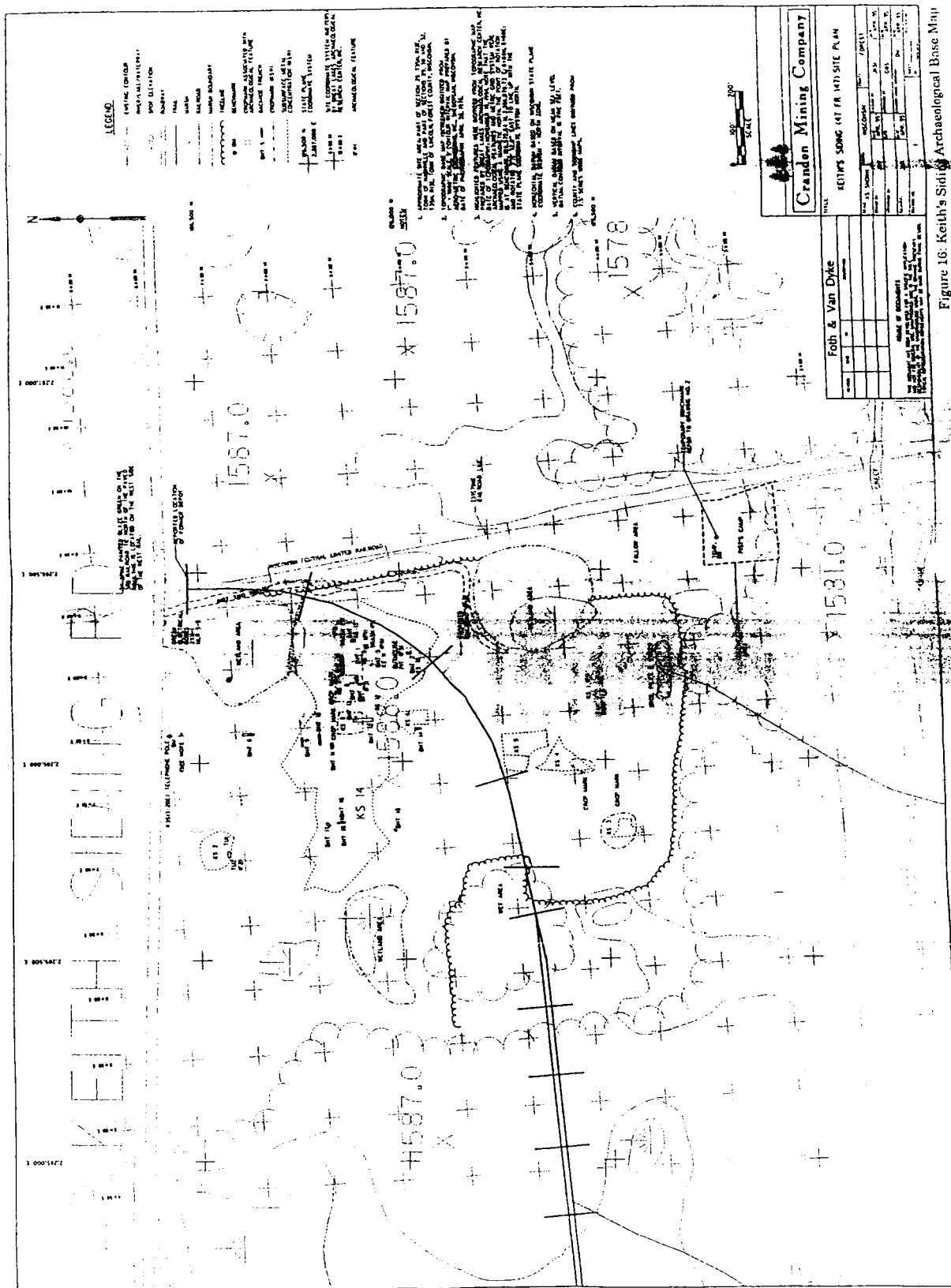
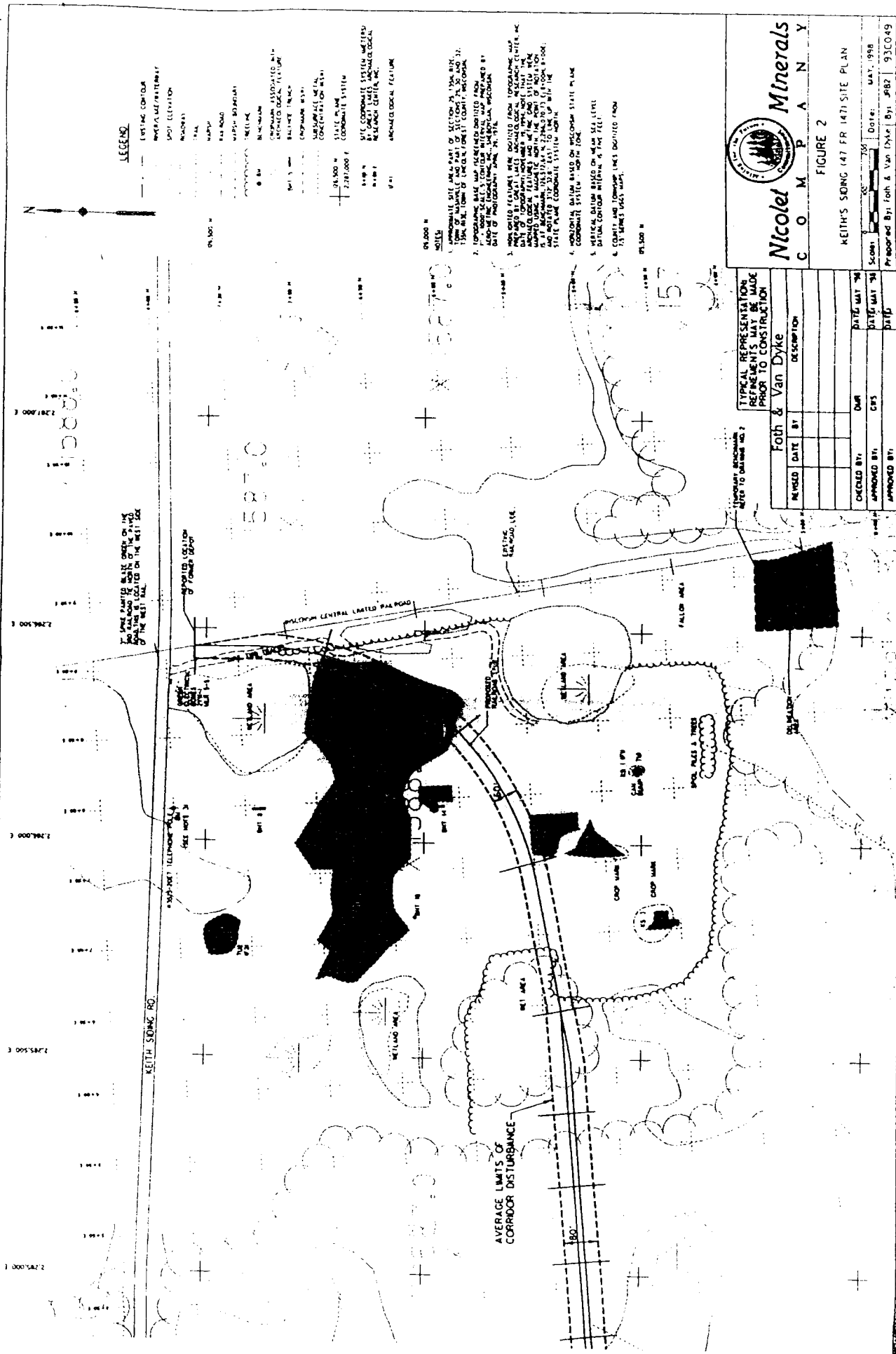


Figure 1: Project location







WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Headquarters Building
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706-1482
608-264-6400

September 7, 2005

Mr. Michael Barron
Counsel for Wisconsin Central Ltd.
17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood IL 60430

SHSW#: 05-0378/FR

RE: Wisconsin Central Abandonment: Crandon Line, MP235.84-MP321.22

Dear Mr. Barron:

We have received your submittal of August 25, 2005 regarding the above referenced project. As long as all of the activity occurs on the rail bed and not on the original ground surface, we believe that the work will result in no effect to the Keith's Siding Site, which is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Please confirm in writing that the construction will not occur on the original ground surface and be confined to the rail bed.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call me at (608) 264-6507.

Sincerely,

Sherman Banker
Office of Preservation Planning



www.cn.ca

U.S. Legal Affairs

Michael J. Barron
Counsel

17641 South Ashland Avenue
Homewood, Illinois 60430

T 708-332-3954
F 708-332-4361
michael.barron@cn.ca

September 16, 2005

Mr. Sherman Banker
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706-1488

Re: AB 303 (Sub-No. 29X); Salvage Plan

Dear Sherman:

In response to your September 7, 2005 letter, Wisconsin Central Ltd. confirms that any construction at the Keith Siding site will not occur on the original ground surface and will be confined to the rail bed. We shall be filing our Notice of Exemption shortly.

Feel free to call me if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Barron, Jr.
Counsel