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January 8, 2003

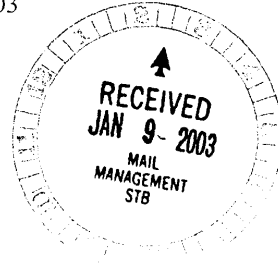
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VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

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

207022



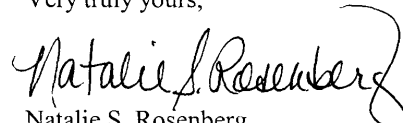
Re: **STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1161X) -
Consolidated Rail Corporation - Abandonment
in Vermilion and Champaign Counties, Illinois**

Dear Mr. Williams:

This refers to the trail negotiations in the above captioned matter. Earlier last fall, the Board granted the request of New York Central Lines, LLC ("NYC") and CSXT Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") to extend the NITU negotiating period until January 31, 2003. 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 31, 2003. 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

NSR/pkw

cc: Lott H. Thomas, Esquire
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