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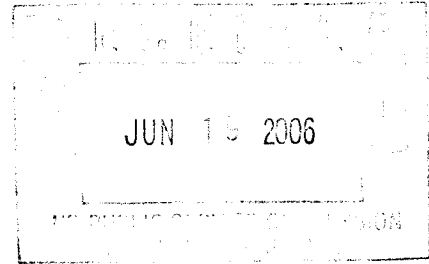
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VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

June 15, 2006

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001



Re: Surface Transportation Board (STB) Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 416X); BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) Abandonment between Souris, North Dakota and Westhope, North Dakota

Dear Secretary Williams:

On May 5, 2004, BNSF filed a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon or discontinue service of approximately 15.50 miles of railroad line between railroad milepost 52.00, near Souris, in Bottineau County, North Dakota and railroad milepost 67.50, near Westhope, in Bottineau County, North Dakota. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58783 and 58793.

By STB decision served May 25, 2004, the STB granted the exemption authority to abandon effective June 24, 2004. Within that same decision, the STB stated that the abandonment was to be consummated as of May 25, 2005. By STB decision served December 28, 2005, the STB granted an extension of the consummation date until July 1, 2006. This letter is to advise the Board that BNSF is consummating the abandonment of the subject line as of the date of this letter.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely,

James H. Gallegos

JHG/js

cc: North Dakota Public Service Commission
North Dakota Department of Transportation
Victoria Rutson, Section of Environmental Analysis, STB
Peter Rickershauser
Jerome Johnson
Sarah Bailiff
Sidney Strickland
Richard Batie
Rail Services Update

15 RR-04-175

Pages: 1

Consummation of abandonment

by BNSF Railway Company by
06/19/2006

CC: Comm Legal...