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JUL 5 2005
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Norfolk Southern Corporation
Law Department
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

James R. Paschall
Senior General Attorney

Writer's Direct Dial Number

(757) 629-2759

June 29, 2005

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

Re: STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub. No. 243X), Norfolk Southern Railway
Company – Abandonment – Winston-Salem, North Carolina –
Notice of Exemption

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed please find a copy of a June 21, 2005 letter we received from Gary
Thompson, Director, North Carolina Geodetic Survey, North Carolina Department of
Environment and National Resources. We received this letter after mailing the Notice
of Exemption to your office on June 28, 2005, for filing on June 30, 2005.

Yours very truly,

James R. Paschall

JRP/kch
Enclosure

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North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Land Resources
North Carolina Geodetic Survey

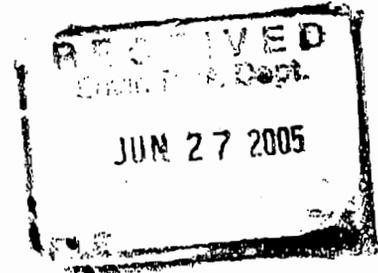
Michael F. Easley
Governor

William G. Ross Jr.
Secretary

James D. Simons, P.G., P.E.
Director and State Geologist

June 21, 2005

Larry G. Western
Norfolk Southern Railroad Company
Environmental Protection Department
110 Franklin Road, SE (Box 13)
Roanoke, VA 24042-0013



Dear Mr. Western:

Thank you for your informing the North Carolina Geodetic Survey (NCGS) in your letter dated May 25, 2005 of Norfolk Southern's proposed abandonment of a railroad section in Forsyth County, North Carolina. Based on our review of the surrounding area, we request permission to access this section in order to determine the locational coordinates of the rails before they are removed, because the legal description of many property boundaries are based on the distance and bearing from railroad rails.

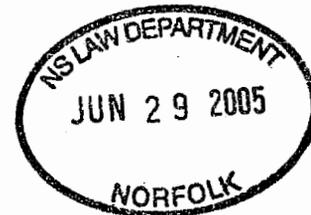
Our review specifically determined that this abandonment could impact two geodetic monuments, which can be replaced afterwards if they are destroyed or disturbed. However, the greater loss would be the historical location of the rails themselves, because this information can not be replaced after the rails are removed. Consequently, it is essential that these rails be surveyed before this section is abandoned whether the rails are to be removed during the abandonment process or left to be salvaged afterwards.

Therefore, we request permission to access this railroad section to determine the locational coordinates of the rails. We would do this determination by performing a Global Positioning System Real Time Kinematic (RTK) survey, which is a modern non-destructive surveying method that does not require any land to be cleared.

Thank you for informing NCGS of the proposed abandonment and allowing our agency the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions about our request, please feel free to contact me by email at gary.thompson@ncmail.net or by phone at (919) 733-3836. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Thompson, Director
North Carolina Geodetic Survey



Mailing Address:
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Raleigh, NC 27699-0323

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