



# Ashland

W I S C O N S I N

E1-3271

November 9, 2007

Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA)  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Docket: AB-303 (Sub-No. 28 X)

Dear Mr. Vernon Williams:

Canadian National has expressed interest in moving forward with demolition activities on the Soo Line Ore Dock trestle and on the dock structure which would remove a number of components that are currently a safety concern to the general public. It is our understanding that the exemption for abandonment is conditioned on completion of the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f. Further, as ordered by the STB, the exemption for abandonment is subject to a condition that WCL "not consummate the abandonment of the Ashland Ore Dock or initiate any salvage activities related thereto until the Board removes this condition".

In the interest of the public safety of our community, we encourage the STB, Wisconsin Historical Society, Wisconsin Central, LTD (WCL) / Canadian National (CN) and all consulting parties to proceed with completion of the Section 106 process with expediency.

However, in the interest of addressing the safety concerns for which WCL / CN is interested in, proceeding with some demolition activities, the City of Ashland requests that the STB consider modifying the conditions of the abandonment proceedings to allow for the removal of the attachments and appurtenances of the concrete structure of the Ore Dock.

The City of Ashland is preparing a proposal which we will present to WCL / CN by the end of October which would preserve the base of the ore dock for reuse of the structure as a community park/fishing pier. The reuse concept would allow for minimization of the loss of the historical integrity of the structure and would likely therefore meet the intent of the Section 106 process.



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To allow for this reuse concept to be built-out, the City requests that during the above-listed demolition activities, WCL / CN and its contractors maintain certain components of the structure (such as several chutes, the light towers, etc.) for transfer to the City of Ashland, along with the base of the Ore Dock structure in good condition for reuse as the park/fishing pier.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please contact us if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward E. Monroe".

Mayor Monroe

# RESOLUTION

No. 16465

## RESOLUTION TO THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD TO ALLOW FOR THE REMOVAL OF ORE DOCK SAFETY HAZARDS

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Central Ltd. (Canadian National Railroad) is scheduling the demolition and removal of the Ashland Soo Line Ore Dock; and,

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin Central Ltd. has an abandonment proceeding before the Surface Transportation Board under Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No.28X).

**WHEREAS**, the Surface Transportation Board has conditioned the abandonment on completion of the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Ashland has concerns about the significant safety risks currently posed by the Ore Dock and attachments in its present condition; and

**WHEREAS**, the City requires Wisconsin Central Ltd. to coordinate with the City to salvage and preserve historic elements of the structure for the future reuse on the City's waterfront or Ore Dock Park;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Common Council of the City of Ashland hereby requests that the Surface Transportation Board modify the Section 106 condition to allow Wisconsin Central Ltd. to proceed with the removal of safety hazards, as identified in Wisconsin Central Ltd. / Canadian National's Demolition Plan, from the Ore Dock and trestle approach.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Ashland respectfully requests to be considered as a signatory party to the Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement.

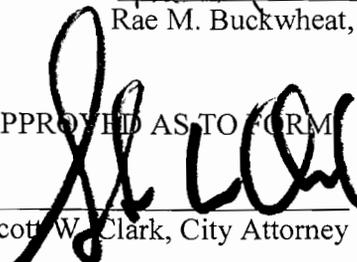
  
Councilperson

PASSED: October 30, 2007

ATTEST:   
Rae M. Buckwheat, City Clerk

  
Edward Monroe, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
Scott W. Clark, City Attorney

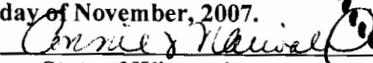
### CERTIFICATION

I, Patti Ekstrom, Deputy Clerk, do hereby certify that the attached resolution is a true, correct, and complete copy of a resolution duly passed by the Common Council of the City of Ashland on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007, and that said resolution has not been repealed or amended, and is now in full force and effect.

Dated this 9th day of November, 2007

  
Patti Ekstrom, Deputy Clerk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 2007.

  
Notary: State of Wisconsin

Commission expires: 1-23-11

