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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration

August 27, 2007

Mr. Sidney Strickland
Sidney Strickland and Associates, PLLC
3050 K St., NW, Suite 101
Washington, DC 20007-3854

Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub. No. 440X), BNSF Railway Company – Abandonment
Exemption – in Thurston County, WA

Dear Mr. Strickland:

Pursuant to Ken Blodgett's recent conversations with Liz Waite and based on the information that was submitted to the Surface Transportation Board's (Board's) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) by BNSF cover letter dated July 27, 2007, it appears that BNSF has satisfactorily complied with the requirements of the environmental conditions imposed on BNSF by the Board in STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub. No. 440X) in the Board's decision granting abandonment authority dated May 15, 2006.

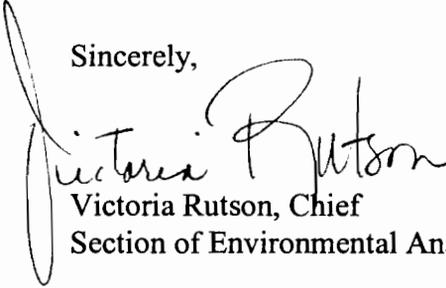
Most environmental conditions imposed by the Board are considered to be self-executing and are intended to be satisfied prior to the applicant's proceeding with salvage activities in a time frame which is appropriate to the salvage activity. Self-executing conditions imposed by the Board sometimes require the applicant to report findings back to SEA. No further Board action or formal Board decision is required. Conditions imposed by the Board that are related to salvage activities are not regulatory barriers to consummation of an abandonment. A notice of consummation may be filed prior to satisfying such salvage conditions. However, filing a notice of consummation in that situation does not remove the conditions, which must still be satisfied if and when salvage activities are conducted.

Conditions that are not self-executing are those which involve historic, fish and wildlife, or coastal zone issues. These non-self executing conditions often require that specific determinations be made by other Federal agencies, or by the Board with the cooperation of other agencies. Non-self executing conditions will clearly indicate that salvage activities and

consummation may not proceed until it has been shown to the Board that the condition has been satisfied and the condition has been removed by the Board.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to me by telephone at (202) 245-0295.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "V".

Victoria Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis