

2 12256

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

WILLIAM C. SIPPEL
(312) 252-1505
wsippel@fletcher-sippel.com

October 15, 2004

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 700
Washington, DC 20006

OCT 18 2004
RECEIVED

Re: **Docket No. AB-384 (Sub-No. 1X)**
Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. -- Abandonment Exemption --
Between Lake Village, AR and Shelburn, LA

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(2)(i) are eleven copies of a formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance to acquire the rail line of Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. between Milepost 433.0 near Lake Village, Arkansas and Milepost 463.0 near Shelburn, Louisiana.

One extra copy of the expression of intent and of this letter also are enclosed. I would request that you date-stamp those items to show receipt of this filing and return them to me in the provided envelope.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



William C. Sippel
Attorney for Southeast Arkansas Economic
Development District

WCS/tjl

Enclosures

cc: Thomas F. McFarland, Esq.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

OCT 16 2004

Part of
Public Record

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, Illinois 60606-2832

WILLIAM C. SIPPEL
(312) 252-1505
wsippel@fletcher-sippel.com

October 15, 2004

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

Thomas F. McFarland, Esq.
Thomas F. McFarland, P.C.
208 South LaSalle Street
Suite 1890
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1112

Re: **Docket No. AB-384 (Sub-No. 1X)**
Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. -- Abandonment Exemption --
Between Lake Village, AR, and Shelburn, LA

Dear Tom:

Pursuant to the applicable regulations of the Surface Transportation Board, 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(2)(i), and the decision of the Board served October 6, 2004 in the above-captioned proceeding, the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District (the "District") hereby formally notifies you of its intent to file, alone or together with other parties, an offer of financial assistance to purchase the rail line of Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. ("DSRR") between Milepost 433.0 near Lake Village, Arkansas, and Milepost 463.0 near Shelburn, Louisiana (the "Line") that is the subject of the above-captioned abandonment proceeding.

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(a), the District hereby requests that DSRR promptly provide the following to the undersigned:

- (1) Applicant's minimum purchase price for the Line;
- (2) the most recent reports or other data in the possession of Applicant regarding the physical condition of the Line;
- (3) Applicant's estimate of the net liquidation value of the Line with supporting data, including but not limited to, real estate appraisals, assessments regarding the quantity and quality of track materials in the Line and removal cost estimates (including the cost of transporting removed materials to the point of sale or point of storage for relay use) in the possession of Applicant; and

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Thomas F. McFarland, Esq.
October 15, 2004
Page 2 of 2

- (4) traffic and revenue data for all traffic that originated or terminated on the Line and that moved overhead over the Line for the most recent two complete calendar years preceding the year in which the Line was taken out of service.

Please note that we have been furnished with a copy of the October 6, 2004 letter of Norman W. Seip to William P. Wainright relating to Mr. Seip's calculation of the net liquidation value of the track on the Line. We do not require another copy of that letter.

Under the Board's order served October 6, 2004 and the Board's regulations, the District's offer of financial assistance is due November 6, 2004, which is a Saturday. We would appreciate receiving the above information and documentation no later than Tuesday, November 2, 2004 so that the District may analyze the information and timely file its offer. Please advise if you need more time or have any questions.

Very truly yours,



William C. Sippel
Attorney for Southeast Arkansas Economic
Development District

WCS/tjl

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Vernon A. Williams, STB