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October 5, 2004

ENTERED
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Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Room 700
Washington, D. C. 20423

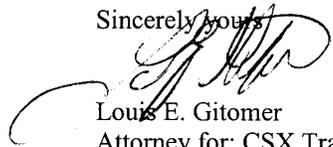
RE: Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 625X), *CSX Transportation, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Preston County, WV*

Dear Secretary Williams:

The Friends of the Cheat (Friends) requested a notice of interim trail use/rail banking for approximately 14.3 miles of a line of railroad extending from milepost BAJ 0.0 at Rowlesburg to milepost BAJ 14.3 near Albright in Preston County, WV, in the above-entitled proceeding. The current extension of the negotiating period expires on October 6, 2004. CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") has not consummated the abandonment, has been unable to finalize negotiations with Friends, and desires to continue to negotiate for interim trail use/rail banking with Friends. Therefore, CSXT respectfully requests the Board to grant a six month extension of time to April 6, 2005 to negotiate trail use with Friends. Additionally, CSXT respectfully requests an extension of the date to consummate the abandonment to June 6, 2005.

Enclosed are the original and 10 copies of this letter, and a filing fee of \$300. Please time and date stamp the additional copy of this letter and return it with our messenger. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions please call or email me.

Sincerely yours



Louis E. Gitomer
Attorney for: CSX Transportation, Inc.

cc: Mr. Pitzer

