ITEM NO. 5

Chain of Custody for Evidence Rail



DENNIS W. MORGART, P.E. Director - Maintenance of Way Development Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Technical Research and Development 1001 N. E. Atchison Street Topeka, Kansas 66616-1197 785-435-5745 785-435-5182 Fax dennis.morgart@bnsf.com

March 29, 2001

Mr. James Wildey National Transportation Safety Board 875 Frontage Road Washington, DC 20594-0003

File: 30-01.458 BNSF Laboratory ID: 2001032003

Mr. Wildey:

Please be advised that the BNSF Railway Company desires to have the rail material being delivered to you with this letter returned to the Railway Company upon the conclusion of your analysis, for purposes of litigation defense, should the need arise. Please return the material to: BNSF Railway Company, Physical Test Lab Spot 24, Crane and Adams Streets, Topeka, KS 66616.

Additionally, for purposes of Chain of Custody continuity, please provide to the Railway Company a copy of the Chain of Custody documents after affixing your signature to same, acknowledging your receipt of the material. We plan to relinquish custody to our Strategic Sourcing and Supply (SS&S) group, who is arranging for the shipping. SS&S will relinquish custody to the trucking company, who will relinquish custody to you at destination. Therefore, the Chain of Custody documentation should include signatures for the four (4) parties involved.

Geoff Dahlman and I plan to be present during the analysis. Any advance notice you can provide of the date set for the analysis would help us with our travel plans.

Thank you in advance.

s W. Morgart, P.F. Cc:

M. P. Stehly – Fort Worth (via email) G. E. Dahlman – Topeka (via email) R. A. Habegger – Topeka (via email) Mr. Cyril Gura - National Transportation Safety Board Central Regional Office 31 West 775 North Avenue West Chicago, IL 60185