

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-No. 3X)]<sup>1</sup>

## Track Tech, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Eddy County, ND

On November 6, 1997, Track Tech, Inc. filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a line of railroad located generally between Hamar, ND (milepost 98.0), and Warwick, ND (milepost 103.92), a distance of 5.92 miles in Eddy County, ND. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service ZIP Codes 58380 and 58381.

The line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by February 24, 1998.

Any offer of financial assistance under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by a \$900 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 U.S.C. 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than December 16, 1997. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-No. 3X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) T. Scott Bannister, 1300

Des Moines Building, 405 Sixth Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152.

Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Decided: November 18, 1997.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-30906 Filed 11-25-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-No. 4X)]<sup>1</sup>

## Track Tech, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Ward County, ND

On November 6, 1997, Track Tech, Inc. filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a line of railroad located generally between Minot, ND (milepost 4.00), and Tatman, ND (milepost 16.70), a distance of 12.70 miles in Ward County, ND. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service ZIP Codes 58701 and 58702.

The line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The

interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by February 24, 1998.

Any offer of financial assistance under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by a \$900 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 U.S.C. 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than December 16, 1997.<sup>2</sup> Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-No. 4X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) T. Scott Bannister, 1300 Des Moines Building, 405 Sixth Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152.

Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on

<sup>1</sup> Petitioner acquired this line and 5 others from Burlington Northern Railroad Company in November 1996. Petitioner is also seeking to abandon, or will seek to abandon, the other lines via exemption in STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-Nos. 1X, 2X, 4X, 5X, and 6X).

<sup>1</sup> Petitioner acquired this line and 5 others from Burlington Northern Railroad Company in November 1996. Petitioner is also seeking to abandon, or will seek to abandon, the other lines via exemption in STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-Nos. 1X, 2X, 3X, 5X, and 6X).

<sup>2</sup> The Minot Park District, Minot, ND, has requested issuance of a public use condition and a notice of interim trail use, it has also submitted a statement of willingness to assume financial responsibility for the right-of-way. This request will be handled in a subsequent decision.

the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Decided: November 18, 1997.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-30907 Filed 11-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-No. 6X)]<sup>1</sup>

#### Track Tech, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Lubbock County, TX

On November 6, 1997, Track Tech, Inc. filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a line of railroad located generally between milepost 351.15 and milepost 357.40, a distance of 6.25 miles in Lubbock County, TX. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service ZIP Codes 79403 and 79404.

The line does not contain any federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by February 24, 1998.

Any offer of financial assistance under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by a \$900 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 U.S.C. 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than December 16, 1997.

<sup>1</sup> Petitioner acquired this line and 5 others from Burlington Northern Railroad Company in November 1996. Petitioner is also seeking to abandon, or will seek to abandon, the other lines via exemption in STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-Nos. 1X, 2X, 3X, 4X, and 5X).

Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-493 (Sub-No. 6X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) T. Scott Bannister, 1300 Des Moines Building, 405 Sixth Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Decided: November 18, 1997.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-30909 Filed 11-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 115X)]

#### Union Pacific Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Waukesha County, WI

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights* to abandon and discontinue service over a 1.40-mile line of railroad on the Waukesha Industrial Lead from milepost 18.16 to the end of UP's line at milepost 19.56 (Grand Avenue), near Waukesha, in Waukesha County, WI. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 53186, 53187 and 53188.

UP has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic on the line can be rerouted; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—*

*Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed. Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on December 26, 1997, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>2</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by December 8, 1997. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by December 16, 1997, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Joseph D. Anthofer, General Attorney, Union Pacific Railroad Company, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE 68179.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

<sup>1</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

<sup>2</sup> Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$900. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).