

served Jan. 19, 1993).² The Port of Chehalis (the Port), a municipal corporation of the State of Washington, subsequently acquired the line. On October 1, 1999, ARZC d/b/a PS&P and the Port executed the Agreement, which governs the rail operations to be conducted by ARZC d/b/a PS&P in Lewis County. Rail freight operations over the line were to commence on or after October 18, 1999.

The line's only interline connection is with Tacoma & Eastern Railway Co. (Tacoma), at milepost 0.0 (Tacoma milepost 67.0). ARZC d/b/a PS&P anticipates acquiring reciprocal overhead trackage rights over 1 mile of Tacoma's line so that it can connect with The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad Company (BNSF)³ in Chehalis.⁴

The rail segment qualifies for a modified certificate of public convenience and necessity. See *Common Carrier Status of States, State Agencies and Instrumentalities and Political Subdivisions*, Finance Docket No. 28990F (ICC served July 16, 1981).

ARZC d/b/a PS&P indicates that no subsidy is involved and that there are no preconditions for shippers to meet in order to receive rail service.

This notice will be served on the Association of American Railroads (Car Service Division) as agent for all railroads subscribing to the car-service and car-hire agreement: Association of American Railroads, 50 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001; and on the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association: American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association, 1120 G Street, NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20005.

Decided: October 19, 1999.

² Based on CMER's petition for exemption, the decision describes the line as an 11-mile line of railroad between milepost 0.0 at CM&E Junction, WA, and milepost 10.0 near Curtis, WA. According to the instant notice, milepost 0.0 at CM&E Junction and milepost 0.0 in Chehalis refer to the same location. The Railroad Right of Way Use and Track Agreement (the Agreement), attached to the notice as Exhibit A, describes the line as approximately 10 miles of rail line. The mileage discrepancy is not explained, but the line description as a whole is unambiguous.

³ Although the Agreement indicates that ARZC d/b/a PS&P will use these trackage rights to connect with the Union Pacific Railway Company in addition to BNSF, ARZC d/b/a PS&P anticipates that the trackage rights agreement it negotiates with Tacoma will provide ARZC d/b/a PS&P only with access to BNSF.

⁴ Prior to operating over Tacoma's line via the overhead trackage rights, ARZC d/b/a PS&P states that it will obtain any necessary regulatory authority from the Board.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-27779 Filed 10-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 155X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Oconee County, SC

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NS) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon 1.26 miles of its line of railroad between milepost Z-42.6 at West Union and milepost Z-43.86 at Walhalla, in Oconee County, SC. The lines traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 29691.

NS has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there has been no overhead traffic on the line during the past 2 years and any overhead traffic could be rerouted over other lines; (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 November 26, 1999, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal

¹ 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

expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by November 8, 1999. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by November 16, 1999, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: James R. Paschall, General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510.

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

NS has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment or historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by November 1, 1999. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), NS shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by NS's filing of a notice of consummation by October 27, 2000, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: October 18, 1999.

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.

² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.(f)(25).

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.
Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.
[FR Doc. 99-27780 Filed 10-26-99; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 49X)]

Soo Line Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—in MacIntosh County, ND

Soo Line Railroad Company (Soo) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 19.0+/- mile portion of its line of railroad known as the Pollack Line between milepost 342.0+/- near Wishek and milepost 361.0+/- at the end of track near Ashley, in MacIntosh County, ND. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58495 and 58413.

Soo 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 over other lines; (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 November 26, 1999, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal

expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by November 8, 1999. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by November 16, 1999, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Diane P. Gerth, Esq., Leonard, Street and Deinard Professional Association, 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

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

Soo has filed an environmental report which addresses the effects of the abandonment, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by November 1, 1999. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), Soo shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by Soo's filing of a notice of consummation by October 27, 2000, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: October 19, 1999.

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.

² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.
Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Bureau of Transportation
Statistics, DOT

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for extension of currently approved collections. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on June 10, 1999 (FR 64, pages 31345-31346).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 26, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bernie Stankus, (202) 366-4387.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)

Title: Reporting Required for International Civil Aviation Organization.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved Collection.

OMB Control Number: 2138-0039.

Form(s): BTS Form EF.

Affected Public: Large Certificated Air Carriers.

Abstract: BTS collects aviation data for the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to fulfill a United States treaty obligation. Most of the data supplied to ICAO is extracted by the Office of Airline Information from its Form 41 data base. However, carriers that provide international service are required to submit a couple of additional cost items which are not reported on the carriers Form 41 Report.

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 16 hours.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and

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