

PROPOSED LIST OF CRITICAL STANDARDS—Continued

Title of standard	Project objective	Lead SDO	Type of criticality	Rationale	Status
Standard for Data Dictionaries for Intelligent Transportation Systems [IEEE P1489].	Address message content for national consistency. Specify a common set of meta entities and meta attributes for ITS data dictionaries, as well as associated conventions and schemas, that enable describing, standardizing, and managing all ITS data. The consistent use of common structures and associated conventions and schemas, data and information can be unambiguously exchanged among various ITS functional subsystems through their specific application systems.	IEEE	Foundationl	Sets requirements for the attributes to be used by all ITS data dictionaries for unambiguous data transfer.	In ballot.
Standard Specification on Dedicated Short-Range Communications (DSRC) Data Link Layer [ASTM2].	Develop a specification for the protocol (data link) communications for DSRC. Support both active and backscatter transponders.	ASTM	National	Allows DSRC systems to communicate between roadsides and vehicles nationally.	In ballot.
Dedicated Short-range Communications (DSRC) Physical Layer—902–928 MHz [ASTM1].	Develop a specification for the radio frequency characteristics (physical layer) for DSRC operation in the range of 902 to 928 MHz. Support both active and backscatter transponders.	ASTM	National	Allows DSRC systems to communicate between roadsides and vehicles nationally.	In ballot.
Template for ITS Message Sets [IEEE P1488].	Develop a standard for an ITS Message Set Template.	IEE	Foundation	Describes the structure and content of message sets for exchange between traffic centers, emergency management centers and traveler information systems in a consistent and uniform manner.	Draft.

(Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315; sec. 5206(c), Pub. L. 105–178, 112 Stat. 107, 456 (1998); 49 CFR 1.48)

Issued on: December 16, 1998.

Kenneth R. Wykle,

Federal Highway Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98–33800 Filed 12–21–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB–557X; STB Docket No. AB–290 (Sub-No. 187X)]

Trustees of the Cincinnati Southern Railway—Abandonment Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH; The Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railway Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

Trustees of the Cincinnati Southern Railway (CSR) and The Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railway Company (CNO&TP) have filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances* for CSR to abandon and CNO&TP to discontinue service over a 1.2-mile line of railroad between Stations 722+19 and Stations 71+11 in

Cincinnati, Hamilton County, OH.¹ The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 45202.

CSR and CNO&TP have certified that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic has been 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

¹ CNO&TP's lease and operation of CSR's line was approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission in *The Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific Railway Company—Ex-Mod. Of Lease—Cincinnati Southern Railway*, Finance Docket No. 21666 (Sub-No. 1) (ICC served Nov. 13, 1987).

(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 January 21, 1999, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),³ and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by January 4, 1999. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 11, 1999, 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 applicants representative: James R. Paschall,

²The 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.

³Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-2191. If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

CSR and CNO&TP have filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 24, 1998. 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), CSR 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 CSR's filing of a notice of consummation by December 22, 1999, 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: December 15, 1998.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-33733 Filed 12-21-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

United States Mint

Request for Comments, Extension of Time

ACTION: Request for Comments, Extension of Time.

SUMMARY: In a notice appearing November 27, 1998, the United States Mint announced that it was seeking comments from the public on proposed obverse and reverse designs for the new \$1 coin to be issued beginning in 2000. The designs have been displayed on the Mint's web site since December 7, 1998. The Mint set a comment deadline of December 21, 1998. Because of overwhelming response to the Mint's web site, the Mint is extending this deadline to December 28, 1998. Current finalist designs remain displayed on the Mint's web site at <http://www.usmint.gov>.

COMMENT DEADLINE: December 28, 1998.

RECEIPT OF COMMENTS: Any member of the public wishing to comment should do so via the Internet by accessing the Mint's web site (<http://www.usmint.gov>). Alternatively, comments may be submitted in writing to Michael White, 633 3rd Street NW, Room 715, Washington, DC 20220, Fax (202) 874-4083; mail must be received no later than December 28, 1998.

Philip Diehl,

Director, The United States Mint.

[FR Doc. 98-33795 Filed 12-21-98; 8:45 am]

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