

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 Web site at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: December 15, 2015.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzig,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015–31886 Filed 12–17–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 751X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.— Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Bell and Harlan Counties, Ky.

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR pt. 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* to discontinue service over an approximately seven-mile rail line on CSXT’s Southern Region, Huntington Division, CV Subdivision, Engineering Appalachian Division, also known as the Pucketts Creek Branch between milepost OPC 223.0 and milepost OPC 230.0 in Bell and Harlan Counties, Ky. (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 40845, 40856, and 40863, and includes two stations, Alva (FSAC 43932/OPSL 19940) at milepost OPC 223.0 and Piedmont (FSAC 43931/OPSL 19930) at milepost OPC 230.0.

CSXT has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) because the Line is not a through line, no overhead traffic needs to 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 is pending either with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 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 discontinuance of service shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth &*

Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 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) to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will be effective on January 19, 2016, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA to subsidize continued rail service under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)¹ must be filed by December 28, 2015.² Petitions to reopen must be filed by January 7, 2016, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to CSXT’s representative: Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

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

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Decided: December 15, 2015.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kenyatta Clay,

Clearance Clerk.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35978]

R. J. Corman Railroad Company/ Carolina Lines, LLC—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—The Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad Company d/b/ a Carolina Southern Railroad Company

R. J. Corman Railroad Company/Carolina Lines, LLC (RJCS) has filed a verified notice of exemption¹ under 49

CFR 1150.41 to acquire from The Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad Company d/b/a Carolina Southern Railroad Company (CALA) and to operate one mile of rail line between milepost AC 290.0 and milepost AC 289.0, at or near Whiteville, N.C., pursuant to a mediation agreement reached between RJCS and CALA on June 19, 2015.²

RJCS certifies that the proposed transaction does not involve a provision or agreement that may limit future interchanges of traffic with a third-party connecting carrier.

RJCS also certifies that its projected revenues upon consummation of the proposed transaction will not result in the creation of a Class I or Class II rail carrier and states that its projected annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million.

This transaction may be consummated on January 2, 2016, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions to stay must be filed no later than December 24, 2015 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35978, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Jeremy J. Sylvester, Moynahan, Irvin & Mooney, PSC, 110 North Main Street, Nicholasville, KY 40356.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: December 15, 2015.

¹ Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,600. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

² Because this is a discontinue proceeding and not an abandonment, interim trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Because there will be environmental review during abandonment, this discontinuance does not require an environmental review.

¹ The notice was originally filed on November 25, 2015, but was supplemented on December 3, 2015. Therefore, December 3, 2015, will be the official filing date and the basis for all subsequent dates.

² RJCS was authorized previously to operate this one-mile line as incidental, local trackage rights, in addition to being authorized to acquire and operate two interconnected rail lines totaling approximately 74.98 miles between specified points in North Carolina and South Carolina. *R. J. Corman R.R.—Acquis. & Operation Exemption—The Baltimore & Annapolis R.R.*, FD 35897 (STB served Jan. 28, 2015), as corrected on November 27, 2015. R. J. Corman Railroad Group, LLC, and R. J. Corman Railroad Company, LLC, were authorized to continue in control of RJCS upon RJCS’s becoming a Class III rail carrier. *R. J. Corman R.R. Grp.—Continuance in Control Exemption—R. J. Corman R.R.*, FD 35898 (STB served Jan. 28, 2015).

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kenyatta Clay,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015-31865 Filed 12-17-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 747X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Ben Hill County, Ga.

On November 30, 2015, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) 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 an approximately 0.23-mile rail line between milepost SLA 660.39 and the end of the line at milepost SLA 660.62, in Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County, Ga. (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Zip Code 31750 and includes no stations.

According to CSXT, there is currently one customer, Modern Dispersion (Modern), located at the end of the Line. CSXT is seeking to abandon the Line and sell it to Modern so that Modern can expand its pellet shipping operations. Upon a grant of abandonment authority, the Line will be sold to Modern for its use in expanding its shipping facility. CSXT states that it plans to leave the tracks and materials in place and Modern plans to use the Line to load and unload rail cars on its own property through a private side track agreement. CSXT states that it will continue to meet Modern's common carrier requirements and projects an increase in volume based on Modern's plan to redevelop its current location.

According to CSXT, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in CSXT'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 Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, In Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by March 18, 2016.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due by March 28, 2016, or 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption, whichever occurs first. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,600 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment, the Line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than January 7, 2016. Each trail request must be accompanied by a \$300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 747X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204. Replies to the petition are due on or before January 7, 2016.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at (202) 245-0238 or refer to the full abandonment regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at www.stb.dot.gov.

Decided: December 15, 2015.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kenyatta Clay,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015-31863 Filed 12-17-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War; Notice of Meeting— Cancellation

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, that the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War (FPOW), previously scheduled to be held at the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center, 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., San Antonio, TX, on January 11-13, 2016, *has been cancelled*.

For more information, please contact Mr. Eric Robinson, Designated Federal Officer at (202) 443-6016 or via email at eric.robinson3@va.gov.

Dated: December 15, 2015.

Jelessa Burney,
*Federal Advisory Committee Management
Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31830 Filed 12-17-15; 8:45 am]

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