

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****Notice of Intent To Rule on Request To Release Airport Property at the Pueblo Memorial Airport, Pueblo, CO**

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of request to release airport property.

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to rule and invite public comment on the release of land at the Pueblo Memorial Airport under the provisions of section 125 of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR 21).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 31, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this application may be mailed or delivered to the FAA at the following address: Mr. Craig Sparks, Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Northwest Mountain Region, Airports Division, Denver Airports District Office, 26805 E. 68th Ave., Suite 224, Denver, Colorado 80249.

In addition, one copy of any comments submitted to the FAA must be mailed or delivered to Mr. John O'Neal, Director of Aviation, Pueblo Memorial Airport, 31201 Bryan Circle Pueblo, Colorado, 81001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Cynthia Nelson, Project Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Northwest Mountain Region, Airports Division, Denver Airports District Office, 26805 E. 68th Ave., Suite 224, Denver, Colorado 80249.

The request to release property may be reviewed in person at this same location.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA invites public comment on the request to release property at the Pueblo Memorial Airport under the provisions of the AIR 21.

On September 19, 2003, the FAA determined that the request to release property at the Pueblo Memorial Airport submitted by the City of Pueblo met the procedural requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations, part 155. The FAA may approve the request, in whole or in part, no later than November 21, 2003.

The following is a brief overview of the request: The Pueblo Memorial Airport requests the release of 34.07 acres of non-aeronautical airport property to the City of Pueblo, Colorado. The purpose of this release is to allow the City of Pueblo to sell the subject

land that was conveyed to the City by the United States acting through the War Assets Administration by Quit Claim Deed dated July 20, 1948. The sale of the parcel will provide funds for airport improvements.

Any person may inspect the request by appointment at the FAA office listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

In addition, any person may, inspect the application, notice and other documents germane to the application in person at Pueblo Memorial Airport 31201 Bryan Circle, Pueblo, CO 81001. Issued in Denver, Colorado on September 19, 2003.

Craig Sparks,

Manager, Denver Airports District Office.

[FR Doc. 03-25750 Filed 10-9-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-468 (Sub-No. 6X)]

Paducah & Louisville Railway, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Hopkins County, KY

Paducah & Louisville Railway, Inc. (P&L), has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 4.81-mile line of railroad between milepost J-159.6, near Ilesley, and milepost J-164.41, near Dawson Springs, in Hopkins County, KY. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 42408.

P&L has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic 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 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 12, 2003, 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 October 20, 2003. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by October 30, 2003, with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to P&L's representative: William A. Mullins, Baker & Miller, PLLC, 915 Fifteenth St. NW., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005.

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

P&L has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by October 17, 2003. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.] 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), P&L 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

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 Environmental Analysis (SEA) 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 OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

P&L's filing of a notice of consummation by October 10, 2004, 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 <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: October 3, 2003.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-25610 Filed 10-9-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 203X)]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Harris County, TX

On September 23, 2003, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed with the Surface Transportation Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon the remaining portion of the Columbia Tap Industrial Lead, extending from milepost .064 near Walker and Palmer Streets to milepost 1.54 near Trulley and Velasco Streets in Houston, Harris County, TX, a distance of .90 miles. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 77003 and includes no stations.

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

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).

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 January 9, 2004.

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 must be accompanied by a \$1,100 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 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than October 30, 2003. 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-33 (Sub-No. 203X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Mack H. Shumate, Jr., 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920, Chicago, IL 60606. Replies to the UP petition are due on or before October 30, 2003.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment and discontinuance 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) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

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 made 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.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: October 3, 2003.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-25611 Filed 10-9-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 157X)]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Discontinuance of Trackage Rights Exemption—in Monterey County, CA

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) has filed a verified notice of exemption

under 49 CFR Part 1152, Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights* to discontinue trackage rights over a 13.1-mile line of railroad (the Seaside Industrial Lead) owned by the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC)¹ extending from milepost 110.2 near Castroville, CA, to the end of the line at milepost 123.3, near Seaside, CA, in Monterey County, CA.² The line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 95012 and 93955.

UP has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; (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 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 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies), and 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance 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 11, 2003, unless stayed pending reconsideration.³ Petitions to

¹ See *Transportation Agency for Monterey County-Acquisition Exemption-Line of Union Pacific Railroad Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 34405 (STB served and published Oct. 3, 2003).

² According to UP, the line has been sold to TAMC effective September 12, 2003. UP states that, in accordance with the terms of the sale, UP reserved trackage rights for freight operations over the line. UP states that it no longer has any need to maintain the reserved trackage rights for freight operations and therefore is proposing discontinuance of those rights. While the terms of the September 12 sale are not altogether clear from the filings made by the parties to that sale in either the present proceeding or in STB Finance Docket No. 34405, the fact that UP has couched its proposal as a discontinuance and not an abandonment would indicate that UP takes the position that a freight common carrier obligation was conveyed to TAMC as part of the September 12 sale.

³ UP stated in its notice that the proposed discontinuance would be consummated on or after November 7, 2003 (which it projected to be 50 days after the notice was filed). Because UP's notice was not filed until September 22, 2003, the exemption is not due to take effect until November 11, 2003.