

the committee, and the scope of its mandate. Based on a review of the comments received and consultation with the General Services Administration, the Board, in a decision served July 17, 2007, announced that it is establishing RETAC and developed a charter to govern its operation. RETAC will provide advice and guidance to the Board, and serve as a forum for discussion of emerging issues regarding the transportation by rail of energy resources, particularly, but not necessarily limited to, coal, ethanol, and other biofuels.

In its July 2007 decision, the Board also requested suggestions for candidates for membership on RETAC. The Board stated that RETAC will be balanced and representative of interested and affected parties, and will consist of not less than: 5 representatives from the Class I railroads, 3 representatives from Class II and III railroads, 3 representatives from coal producers, 5 representatives from electric utilities (including at least one rural electric cooperative and one state- or municipally-owned utility), 4 representatives from biofuel refiners, processors, or distributors, or biofuel feedstock growers or providers, and 2 representatives from private car owners, car lessors, or car manufacturers. RETAC may also include up to 3 members with relevant experience but not necessarily affiliated with one of the aforementioned industries or sectors. The Chairman of the Board may invite representatives from the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Energy and Transportation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to serve on RETAC in advisory capacities as *ex officio* (non-voting) members, and the three members of the Board shall serve as *ex officio* members of the Committee as well.

Accordingly, attached to this decision is a list of the candidates who, in accordance with the RETAC charter, have been selected by the Chairman with a concurrence of a majority of the Board to serve as members of RETAC for the first 2-year term.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 721, 49 U.S.C. 11101; 49 U.S.C. 11121.

Decided: September 21, 2007.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

Appendix—Surface Transportation Board Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee Members

Class I Railroads

Stevan Bobb, Group Vice President—Coal, BNSF Railway Company
Paul Hammes, Vice President and General Manager—Agricultural Products, Union Pacific Railroad Company
Henry Rupert, Assistant Vice President—Utility North, CSX Transportation, Inc.
Darin Selby, Assistant Vice President—Coal Sales and Marketing, Kansas City Southern Railway Company
Alan Shaw, Senior Director of Coal Transportation, Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Class II and III Railroads

Edward McKechnie, Chief Commercial Officer, WATCO Companies
David Rohal, Vice President, RailAmerica, Inc.
Daniel Ray Sabin, President, Iowa Northern Railway Company

Coal Producers

John Eaves, President and COO, Arch Coal, Inc.
Betsy Monseu, Vice President, Transportation, Foundation Energy Sales, Inc.
Michael Rayphole, Vice President—Sales and Western Transportation, COALSALLES, LLC

Electric Utilities

William Berg, CEO, Dairyland Power Cooperative
W. Paul Bowers, President, Southern Company Generation
C. Joseph Hopf, President, PPL EnergyPlus, LLC
Richard Kelly, Chairman, President, and CEO, XCEL Energy Inc.
Dan Kuehn, Executive Manager, Wholesale Power Services, Lower Colorado River Authority

Biofuel Refiners, Producers, Distributors, or Feedstock Providers

Daryl Haack, Corn and soybean farmer, Pringhar, Iowa
Mark Huston, Director, North American Transportation, Louis Dreyfus Commodities
James Redding, Vice President, Aventine Renewable Energy, Inc.
Darrell Wallace, Vice President Transportation Commodities Group, Bunge North America

Private Car Owners, Car Lessors or Car Manufacturers

Robert Hulick, Senior Vice President Business Development, TrinityRail
Jay Wileman, President and CEO, G.E. Equipment Services—Rail Services

Other

James Brunkenhoefer, National Legislative Director, United Transportation Union
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 649X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Niagara County, NY

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 1.57-mile line of railroad known as the Erie Industrial Track, on its Northern Region, Albany Division, Niagara Subdivision, extending from milepost QCJ 13.43 to milepost QCJ 15.0, in North Tonawanda, Niagara County, NY. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 14120. CSXT indicates that no stations will be impacted by the proposed abandonment.

CSXT has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) no overhead traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years and overhead traffic, if there were any, 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 October 26, 2007, unless stayed pending

reconsideration.¹ 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 October 9, 2007. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by October 16, 2007, 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: Steven C. Armbrust, Esq., CSX Transportation, Inc., 500 Water Street, J-150, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

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

CSXT has filed environmental and historic reports addressing the effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by October 1, 2007. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 1100, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 245-0305. [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), CSXT 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

CSXT's filing of a notice of consummation by September 26, 2008, 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: September 18, 2007.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs; Survey of U.S. Ownership of Foreign Securities as of December 31, 2007

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of reporting requirements.

SUMMARY: By this Notice and in accordance with 31 CFR 129, the Department of the Treasury is informing the public that it is conducting a mandatory survey of U.S. ownership of foreign securities as of December 31, 2007. This Notice constitutes legal notification to all United States persons (defined below) who meet the reporting requirements set forth in this Notice that they must respond to, and comply with, this survey. Additional copies of the reporting form SHCA (2007) and instructions may be printed from the Internet at: <http://www.treas.gov/tic/forms-sh.html>.

Definition: Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3102 a U.S. person is any individual, branch, partnership, associated group, association, estate, trust, corporation, or other organization (whether or not organized under the laws of any State), and any government (including a foreign government, the United States Government, a state, provincial, or local government, and any agency, corporation, financial institution, or other entity or instrumentality thereof, including a government-sponsored agency), who resides in the United States or is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

Who Must Report: The panel for this survey is based upon the level of U.S. holdings of foreign securities reported on the December 2006 benchmark survey of U.S. holdings of foreign securities, and will consist primarily of the largest reporters on that survey.

Entities required to report will be contacted individually by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Entities not contacted by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York have no reporting responsibilities.

What to Report: This report will collect information on holdings by U.S. residents of foreign securities, including equities, long-term debt securities, and short-term debt securities (including selected money market instruments).

How to Report: Copies of the survey forms and instructions, which contain complete information on reporting procedures and definitions, can be obtained at the Web site address given above in the **SUMMARY**, or by contacting the survey staff of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at (212) 720-6300, e-mail: SHC.help@ny.frb.org. The mailing address is: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Statistics Function, 4th Floor, 33 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10045-0001. Inquiries can also be made to Mr. William L. Grier, Federal Reserve Board of Governors, at (202) 452-2924, e-mail: william.l.grier@frb.gov; or to Dwight Wolkow at (202) 622-1276, e-mail: wolkowd@do.treas.gov.

When to Report: Data must be submitted to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, acting as fiscal agent for the Department of the Treasury, by March 7, 2008.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice: This data collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act and assigned control number 1505-0146. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid control number assigned by OMB. The estimated average annual burden associated with this collection of information is 48 hours per respondent for end-investors and custodians that file Schedule 3 reports covering their securities entrusted to U.S. resident custodians, 145 hours per respondent for large end-investors filing Schedule 2 reports, and 700 hours per respondent for large custodians of securities filing Schedule 2 reports. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be directed to the Department of the Treasury, Attention Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Reporting Systems, Room 5422, Washington, DC 20220, and to OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Treasury, Office of

¹ On September 10, 2007, B P Rail Corporation d/ b/a BP Rail (BPR) filed a formal expression of intent to file an OFA to purchase the line. In this filing, BPR requests that CSXT provide BPR with the financial data and information prescribed in 49 CFR 1152.27(a). BPR also requests that the Board toll the time period for the filing of an OFA for an additional 60 days. The Board will address BPR's tolling request in a subsequent decision.

² 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.

³ Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,300. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).