

**[Public Notice No. 2315]****Shipping Coordinating Committee, International Maritime Organization (IMO) Legal Committee; Notice of Meeting**

The U.S. Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct a special open meeting at 10 a.m., on Thursday, January 25, 1996, in Room 6319 of U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. The purpose of this meeting is to seek public comment in preparation for an upcoming diplomatic conference that will consider the draft texts of both an International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS Convention) and a Protocol to amend the International Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims (76 LLMC). The diplomatic conference will be held in London, at the Headquarters of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), from April 15 until May 3, 1996.

To facilitate the attendance of those participants who may be interested in only certain aspects of the public meeting, the first item addressed will be a presentation on the basic structure, framework, and legal principles of the draft HNS Convention. Comments will be sought at this time regarding the substance of the draft HNS Convention to assist the United States delegation in developing negotiating positions for the diplomatic conference.

At approximately 11 a.m., there will be a presentation on the major revisions to the 76 LLMC that would be brought about by the draft Protocol. Comments will be sought at this time regarding the substance of the draft Protocol to assist the United States delegation in developing negotiating positions for the diplomatic conference.

Members of the public are invited to attend the SHC meeting, up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information or to submit views concerning the subjects of discussion, contact either Captain David J. Kantor or Lieutenant Commander Steven D. Poulin, U.S. Coast Guard (G-LMI), 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593, telephone (202) 267-1527, telefax (202) 267-4496.

Dated: December 18, 1995.

Charles A. Mast,

Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

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**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

[Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 520X)]<sup>1</sup>

**CSX Transportation, Inc.—  
Abandonment Exemption—Chatham  
County, GA**

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) has filed a verified notice under 49 CFR Part 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon approximately 0.69 miles rail line between milepost SHB-511.66 and SHB-512.35 in North Savannah, Hutchinson Island, Chatham County, GA.

CSXT 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) 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 Board with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in complainant's favor within the last 2 years; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental report), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic report), 49 CFR 1105.11 and 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to government agencies), and 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication) 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 employees are adequately protected, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10505(d) must be filed.

This exemption will be effective on February 17, 1996, unless stayed or a statement of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) is filed. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>2</sup> statements of

<sup>1</sup> The proceeding was originally instituted by the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC). The ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. No. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803 (the Act), which was signed into law by President Clinton on December 29, 1995, took effect on January 1, 1996, and abolished the ICC and transferred certain functions and pending proceedings to the Surface Transportation Board (Board). Section 204(b)(1) of the Act provides, in general, that proceedings transferred from the ICC to the Board shall be decided under the law in effect prior to January 1, 1996. All statutory references in this notice will be to the former Interstate Commerce Act (ICA) provisions. The statutory provisions at 49 U.S.C. 10903-04 of the prior ICA were reenacted as 49 U.S.C. 10903 and responsibility for administering them is assigned to the Board.

<sup>2</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised

intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>3</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29<sup>4</sup> must be filed by January 29, 1996. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by February 7, 1996. An original and 10 copies of any such filing must be sent to the Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, Surface Transportation Board, 1201 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20423. In addition, one copy must be served on Charles M. Rosenberger, CSX Transportation, Inc., 500 Water Street J150, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

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

CSXT has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by January 23, 1996. A copy of the EA may be obtained by writing to SEA (Room 3219, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling Elaine Kaiser at (202) 927-6248. 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.

Decided: January 11, 1996.

By the Board, David M. Konschnick,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.  
Vernon A. Williams,  
Secretary.

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****Antidrug Program for Personnel  
Engaged in Specific Aviation Activities**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

by a party or by the Board 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.

<sup>3</sup> *See Exempt. of Rail Abandonment—Offers of Finan. Assist.*, 4 I.C.C.2d 164 (1987).

<sup>4</sup> The Board will accept late-filed trail use requests so long as the abandonment has not been consummated and the abandoning railroad is willing to negotiate an agreement.