

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-303 (Sub-No. 14X)]

Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Abandonment Exemption—in Wood County, WI

Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon an approximately .75-mile line of railroad between milepost 22 and milepost 22.75 northwest of Wisconsin Rapids, in Wood County, WI. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 54495.

WCL 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) 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 April 8, 1998, 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 March 19, 1998. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by March 30, 1998, 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 applicant's representative: Michael J. Barron, Jr., Wisconsin Central Ltd., P.O. Box 5062, Rosemont, IL 60017-5062.

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

WCL has 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 March 13, 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), WCL 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 WCL's filing of a notice of consummation by March 9, 1999, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Decided: March 2, 1998.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-5790 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Offer In Compromise of liability incurred under the provisions of Title 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 8, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Barnes, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927-8930.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to Julie Orlow, Revenue Operations Branch, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Offer In Compromise of liability incurred under the provisions of Title 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

OMB Number: 1512-0221.

Form Number: ATF F 5640.1.

Abstract: ATF F 5640.1 is used by persons who wish to compromise criminal and/or civil penalties for violations of the Internal Revenue Code. If accepted, the offer in compromise is a settlement between the government and the party in violation in lieu of legal proceedings or prosecution. The form identifies the party making the offer, violations, amount of offer and circumstances concerning the violations.

Current Actions: There are no changes associated with this information collection and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 80.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms****Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

scheduled to increase to \$1000, effective March 20, 1998.

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 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 offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$900. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25). This fee is