

from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a 39.1-mile branch line of railroad known as the Madison-Sorento Line or the Madison Branch, extending between milepost TS-406.6 at Sorento, IL, and milepost TS-445.7 at Madison, IL, in Madison and Bond Counties, IL.² The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 62001, 62025, 62060, 62074, and 62086, and includes the stations of Madison, Stallings, Glen Carbon, Leclair, Edwardsville, White (Town of Alhambra), New Douglas, and Sorento.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad'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 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 February 3, 1999.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) 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 OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,000 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 November 27, 1998. 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-290 (Sub-No. 203X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001, and (2) James R. Paschall, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-2191. Replies to the NSR petition are due on or before November 27, 1998.

² NSR indicates that the end point of the branch line at Sorento has been shown on its system diagram map as milepost TS-444.2 rather than TS-445.7. NSR requests an exemption or waiver from the requirement that it list the 1.5 miles of the line between those mileposts on its system diagram map. Because NSR has provided no reasons for the Board to grant either exemption or waiver here, the request will not be granted. It should be noted, however, that failure to comply with 49 U.S.C. 10903(c)(2) is not grounds for denial of this abandonment petition.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment 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) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

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 website at WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.

Decided: November 2, 1998.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

[Treasury Directive Number 11-02]

Delegation of Authority for Administering the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund

1. *Delegation.* a. Pursuant to Treasury Order (TO) 101-20, this Directive delegates to the Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, all duties, powers, rights, and obligations vested by TO 101-20 in the Under Secretary (Domestic Finance) for purposes of administering the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, a wholly owned government corporation within the Department of the Treasury.

b. The Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, is designated as an officer of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund pursuant to section 104(b)(3) of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994, subtitle A of title I of the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory

Improvement Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-325 (12 U.S.C. 4703 (b)(3)).

2. The Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, shall report to the Under Secretary (Domestic Finance).

3. The Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, may redelegate in writing to officers of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund such of the authority granted under this Directive as the Director deems appropriate. For purposes of such redelegation of authority, the Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, may designate as officers, in writing, such individuals as the Director deems appropriate.

4. *Authority.* TO 101-20, "Administering the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund," dated August 14, 1995.

5. *Expiration Date.* This Directive shall expire three years from the date of issuance unless superseded or canceled prior to that date.

6. *Office of Primary Interest.* Office of the Under Secretary (Domestic Finance).

John D. Hawke, Jr.,

Under Secretary (Domestic Finance).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

[Treasury Order Number 145-10]

Remission or Waiver of Liquidated Damages

Dated: October 29, 1998.

1. By virtue of authority vested in the Secretary of the Treasury, including the authority in 31 U.S.C. § 321(b), I hereby delegate to the Commissioner, Financial Management Service, (the "Commissioner"), the authority of the Secretary:

a. upon a recommendation from the head of a contracting agency, to remit or waive all or part, as in his discretion may be just and equitable, of liquidated damages for delay assessed against a contractor, in conformity with provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 2312 or 41 U.S.C. § 256a; and

b. to exercise any right or power, make any finding or determination, or perform any duty or obligation which the Secretary is authorized to exercise, make or perform under 10 U.S.C. § 2312 and 41 U.S.C. § 256a.

2. The authority delegated to the Commissioner by paragraph 1 further includes any matter in which the Secretary's authority to remit or waive liquidated damages under the cited