

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Railroad Administration****Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System or Relief From the Requirements of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 236**

Pursuant to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 235 and 49 U.S.C. App. 26, the following railroads have petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of the signal system or relief from the requirements of 49 CFR part 236 as detailed below.

*Docket No.:* FRA-1999-5432.

*Applicant:* Belt Railway Company of Chicago, Mr. Charles S. Ridgeway, Signal Supervisor/Manager, 6900 South Central Avenue, Bedford Park, Illinois 60638.

The Belt Railway Company of Chicago seeks approval of the proposed temporary discontinuance of the signal system, on all tracks within interlocking limits, at East End Switches Interlocking Plant, in Chicago Illinois, for approximately three months, during construction associated with the complete upgrading and replacement of the power-operated switches and interlocking signal system.

The reason given for the proposed changes is the need to replace the 1950's, installed electro-pneumatic switch machines and all-relay interlocking, with new dual-control, electric switch machines and new microprocessor-based interlocking, associated with significant track changes.

Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and contain a concise statement of the interest of the Protestant in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by the docket number and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by the FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at DOT

Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.

Issued in Washington, DC on May 21, 1999.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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*Docket No.:* FRA-1999-5430.

*Applicant:* Union Pacific Railroad Company, Mr. P. M. Abaray, Chief Engineer Signals, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 1000, Omaha, Nebraska 68179-1000.

Union Pacific Railroad Company seeks approval of the proposed discontinuance and removal of the automatic block signal system, on the Hope Industrial Lead, between Herington, Kansas, milepost 451.4 and Hope, Kansas, milepost 459.2, on the Herington Subdivision, a distance of approximately 7.8 miles.

The reason given for the proposed changes is that rails have been removed in both directions from the industrial lead and train movements are infrequent so signals are no longer needed.

Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and contain a concise statement of the

interest of the Protestant in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by the docket number and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by the FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.

Issued in Washington, DC on May 21, 1999.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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*Docket No.:* FRA-1999-5431.

*Applicant:* Union Pacific Railroad Company, Mr. P.M. Abaray, Chief Engineer Signals, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 1000, Omaha, Nebraska 68179-1000.