

⁸To reissue the exemption originally issued on an emergency basis authorizing certain Division 4.2 materials to be stowed as palletized cargo in an under-deck forecastle location.

[FR Doc. 00-22079 Filed 8-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Advisory Board

Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App. I) notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), to be held at 12:00 noon on Saturday, September 30, 2000, in the conference room of the Corporation's Administration Building, 180 Andrews Street, Massena, NY. The agenda for this meeting will be as follows: Opening Remarks; Consideration of Minutes of Past Meeting; Review of Programs; New Business; and Closing Remarks.

Attendance at meeting is open to the interested public but limited to the space available. With the approval of the Administrator, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing further information should contact not later than September 22, 2000, Marc C. Owen, Advisory Board Liaison, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; 202-366-6823.

Any member of the public may present a written statement to the Advisory Board at any time.

Issued at Washington, DC on August 24, 2000.

Marc C. Owen,
Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-22095 Filed 8-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-61-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33912]

Wisconsin Central Ltd. and Fox Valley & Western Ltd.—Joint Relocation Project Exemption—Wisconsin Rapids, WI

On August 14, 2000, Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL) and Fox Valley & Western Ltd. (FVW) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(5) to relocate certain lines of railroad in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. The transaction

was scheduled to be consummated no sooner than August 22, 2000.

WCL operates a line in Wisconsin Rapids that runs in a generally north-south orientation (WCL Line). The WCL Line is a portion of WCL's Valley Sub between Tomahawk, WI, and New Lisbon, WI. FVW operates a line in Wisconsin Rapids that runs in a generally east-west orientation (FVW Line). The FVW Line is a portion of FVW's Whitehall Sub between East Winona, WI, and Plover, WI. WCL and FVW currently share the use of an Industrial Spur currently owned by the City of Wisconsin Rapids. As part of this transaction FVW will acquire ownership of the Industrial Spur. WCL will continue to have rights to access the Industrial Spur after the transaction is consummated.¹

In addition, under the joint relocation project, WCL and FVW propose the following transactions:

(1) FVW will abandon a line of railroad on the FVW Line, as it currently sits, from milepost 97.28 to milepost 96.15;

(2) FVW will use the Industrial Spur, which connects with the FVW Line at FVW milepost 97.28, to access the WCL Line, at WCL milepost 50.80, which will also become FVW milepost 96.71;

(3) WCL will grant FVW trackage rights to operate on the WCL Line from WCL milepost 50.80 to WCL milepost 49.85, where FVW trains will be able to access the FVW Line at FVW milepost 96.15.

The proposed joint relocation project will not disrupt service to shippers. Its purpose is to simplify rail operations in Wisconsin Rapids and accommodate efforts to reduce rail interference with vehicular traffic.

The Board will exercise jurisdiction over the abandonment or construction components of a relocation project, and require separate approval or exemption, only where the removal of track affects service to shippers or the construction of new track involves expansion into new territory. See *City of Detroit v. Canadian National Ry. Co., et al.*, 9 I.C.C.2d 1208 (1993), *aff'd sub nom. Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority v. ICC*, 59 F.3d 1314 (D.C. Cir. 1995). Line relocation projects may embrace trackage rights transactions such as the one involved here. See *D.T.&I.R.—Trackage Rights*, 363 I.C.C. 878 (1981).

¹ According to the verified notice of exemption, the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) also has access rights to the Industrial Spur, which UP will retain when the transaction is completed.

Under these standards, the incidental abandonment, construction, and trackage rights components require no separate approval or exemption when the relocation project, as here, will not disrupt service to shippers and thus qualifies for the class exemption at 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(5).

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring STB Finance Docket No. 33912, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Michael J. Barron, Esq., Wisconsin Central Ltd. and Fox Valley & Western Ltd., 6250 North River Road, Suite 9000, Rosemond, IL 60018.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: August 22, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-22034 Filed 8-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. MC-F-20973]

Stagecoach Holdings PLC and Coach USA, Inc., et al.—Control—Midnight Sun Tours, Inc.

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice tentatively approving finance transaction.

SUMMARY: Stagecoach Holdings PLC (Stagecoach) and its subsidiary, Coach USA, Inc. (Coach), noncarriers, and various subsidiaries of each