

Dated: December 11, 2001.

Keith D. Miller,

*Executive Secretary, Overseas Schools
Advisory Council, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 01-31265 Filed 12-18-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-24-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Utah and Wasatch Counties, UT

AGENCY: Federal Highway
Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Amended Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an additional component, a recreational trail, will be added and the termini changed for the supplement to a final environmental impact statement being prepared for a proposed highway project in Utah and Wasatch Counties, Utah.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William R. Gedris, Environmental Coordinator, Federal Highway Administration, 2520 West 4700 South, Suite 9A, Salt Lake City, Utah 84118, Telephone: (801) 963-0078 ext. 243; or Brent Schvaneveldt, Utah Department of Transportation, Region 3, 658 North 1500 West, Orem, Utah 84057, Telephone: (801) 222-3406.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), previously issued a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** (February 24, 2000: Volume 65, Number 371, Page 9305) to prepare a supplement to the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for a portion of a U.S. Highway 189 from the I-15 Interchange in Orem on the west to Heber City on the east. A recreational trail known as the Provo/Jordan River Parkway, which is a recognized priority in the current Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan, will now be included in the analysis for the project. Since portions of the highway have been completed and to avoid confusion with another ongoing project in Orem, the highway termini will be changed from the previous designation on the west to the Utah/Wasatch County line (approximately the intersection of U.S. Highway 189 with State Road 92 at Wildwood) and the intersection of U.S. Highway 189 with U.S. Highway 40 approximately 0.8 km (0.5 mile) south of Heber City on the east. The trail termini will extend from Vivian Park on the west (1.9 km [1.2 miles] west of Wildwood) to the Deer Creek Dam

(approximately 8 km [5 miles] east of Wildwood) on the east. The purpose of the project is to improve the safety and traffic carrying capacity of the highway by correcting substandard geometrics and other unsafe conditions and to provide a safe, aesthetically appealing extension of the high priority recreational trail with minimal environmental impact.

The trail will extend from its present termini at Vivian Park through the U.S. Highway 189 /Provo River corridor to the vicinity of the Deer Creek Dam utilizing appropriate combinations of abandoned highway, Heber Creeper Railroad right of way, existing local roads and bridges, water aqueduct right of way, and new alignment. Future extension of the trail is planned for the west side of Deer Creek Reservoir to the Soldier Hollow Olympic Venue in Wasatch Mountain State Park and will be addressed in a new environmental document at a later date.

Comments are being solicited from appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies and from private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. A public scoping and information meeting and a public hearing will be held during the course of the analysis. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The draft SEIS will be available for public and agency review prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments and/or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA or UDOT at the addresses provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.

Issued on: December 13, 2001.

William R. Gedris,

Structural/Environmental Engineer, Salt Lake City, Utah.

[FR Doc. 01-31223 Filed 12-18-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 233X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Pike County, KY

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 1.61-mile line of railroad between milepost LA-0.0 at Leckie Junction and milepost LA-1.61 at Aflex, in Pike County, KY. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 41501.

NSR has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic, if there is any, 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 January 18, 2002, unless stayed pending reconsideration.¹ Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal

¹ While the applicant initially indicated a proposed consummation date of January 17, 2002, because the verified notice was filed on November 29, 2001, consummation may not take place prior to January 18, 2002. Applicant's representative has subsequently confirmed that the correct consummation date is on or after January 18, 2002.

² 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 (SEA) 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

expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),³ and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by December 31, 2001. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 8, 2002, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: James R. Paschall, General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510.

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

NSR has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 21, 2001. 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) 565-1552. 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), NSR 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 NSR's filing of a notice of consummation by December 19, 2002, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at www.stb.dot.gov.

Decided: December 10, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-30918 Filed 12-18-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

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.

³ Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 234X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Mingo County, WV

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 2.3-mile line of railroad between milepost TR-0.0 at Thacker and milepost TR-2.3 at Colonel, in Mingo County, WV. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 25694.

NSR has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic, if there is any, 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 January 18, 2002, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA

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 (SEA) 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.

under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by December 31, 2001. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 8, 2002, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to NSR's representative: James R. Paschall, General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510.

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

NSR has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 21, 2001. 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) 565-1552. 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), NSR shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned its line. If consummation has not been effected by NSR's filing of a notice of consummation by December 19, 2002, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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Decided: December 11, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-30992 Filed 12-18-01; 8:45 am]

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² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).