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Decided: June 11, 2002.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-15202 Filed 6-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34214]

Wallowa County, Oregon—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Rail Line of Idaho Northern & Pacific Railroad Company Between Elgin and Joseph, OR

Wallowa County, Oregon (the County), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire and operate a 62.58-mile line of railroad of Idaho Northern & Pacific Railroad Company (INPR) extending between milepost 21.0 at or near Elgin and milepost 83.58 at or near Joseph in Wallowa and Union Counties, OR (Joseph rail line or the line).¹

According to the County, an agreement has been reached between the County and INPR regarding sale and operation of the rail line.² The County certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction do not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III rail carrier, and that such

¹ In *Idaho Northern & Pacific Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Wallowa and Union Counties, OR*, Docket No. AB-433X (STB served Mar. 12, 1997) (March 12, 1997 decision), the Board granted a petition for exemption under former 49 U.S.C. 10505 from the prior approval requirements of former 49 U.S.C. 10903 *et seq.* for INPR to abandon a 60.58-mile portion (all but 2 miles) of its Joseph rail line, between milepost 23.0 near Elgin and milepost 83.58 at Joseph, in Wallowa and Union Counties, OR, subject to certain conditions (largely relating to environmental concerns in connection with salvage activities) and provided that the exemption would become effective on April 17, 1997. In a decision served in this proceeding on December 13, 2001, the Board substituted a modified environmental condition for the conditions imposed in the March 12, 1997 decision. The County states that INPR has not consummated abandonment of any part of the Joseph rail line.

² The County states that INPR will operate the line until the later of: (1) 90 days after full payment of the purchase price; or (2) the designation and qualification of a new operator. The County will have a residual common carrier obligation to operate the line. The County states that no new authority is needed for INPR to operate the line because INPR never exercised the authority granted by the Board for it to abandon or discontinue service over the described 60.58-mile portion of the Joseph rail line.

revenues will not exceed \$5 million annually.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or shortly after May 31, 2002 (7 days after the exemption was filed).

If the verified 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 to STB Finance Docket No. 34214, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Thomas F. McFarland, P.C., 208 South LaSalle St., Suite 1890, Chicago, IL 60604-1194.

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

Decided: June 7, 2002.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-15097 Filed 6-14-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Importer Self-Assessment Program

AGENCY: United States Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document advises the public of the implementation of the Importer Self-Assessment (ISA) program and describes the requirements for participation in, and benefits under, the ISA. The ISA, which was developed by Customs under its regulatory audit authority, allows interested importers to assess their own compliance with Customs laws and regulations. Participation in the ISA is open to all importers who are participating members in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism.

DATE: Participation in the ISA will be open to all qualified importers beginning on June 17, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Customs Internet website (<http://www.customs.gov/imp-exp1/comply/isa.htm>) or Russell Ugone, Director, Trade Agreements Branch, Regulatory Audit Division (202-927-0728).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

As a consequence of the passage of the Customs Modernization provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 103-182, 107 Stat. 2057), an important objective of Customs in the trade compliance process has been to maximize importer compliance with U.S. trade laws while, at the same time, facilitating the importation and entry of admissible merchandise. To meet this goal, Customs has made a comprehensive effort to review, improve, and redesign, on an ongoing basis, the trade compliance process using established business practices, reengineered tools, and new methodologies that improve customer service without compromising the enforcement aspect of the Customs mission.

In order to enable interested importers to participate in a program that would allow them to assess their own compliance with Customs laws and regulations on a continuing basis, Customs on April 24, 1998, published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 20442) a notice of a plan to conduct a test regarding the Importer Compliance Monitoring Program (ICMP). On April 30, 2002, Customs published a notice in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 21322) advising the public of the termination of the ICMP test because importer participation in the ICMP remained below the level anticipated by Customs when the ICMP procedures were developed. That notice stated that the ICMP was being discontinued in favor of a new program. The new program, Importer Self-Assessment (ISA) will continue the self-assessment principles of the ICMP while relying on new methodologies which provide upfront benefits and a more flexible approach.

The purpose of this notice is to describe the operation of the ISA, including the requirements for participation in, and benefits under, the ISA program.

Description of the Importer Self-Assessment Program

Overview

The ISA program is a joint government-business initiative designed to build cooperative relationships that strengthen trade compliance. It is based on the premise that importers with strong internal controls achieve the highest level of compliance with Customs laws and regulations. The ISA program provides a means to recognize