

at North Judson, to milepost CI 230.92, at Malden, in LaPorte, Porter and Starke Counties, IN. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 46340, 46348, 46366, 46382, 46383, and 46390, and includes stations at Malden, LaCrosse, and North Judson.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in CSXT'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 issuing 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 20, 2004.

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 \$1,100 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 December 11, 2003. 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-55 (Sub-No. 643X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Natalie S. Rosenberg, Senior Counsel, 500 Water Street—J150, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Replies to the petition are due on or before December 11, 2003.

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) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

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 Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: November 17, 2003.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-29142 Filed 11-20-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 157X)]¹

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—In Monterey County, CA

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR Part 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 13.1-mile line of railroad (the Seaside Industrial Lead) extending from milepost 110.2 near Castroville, CA, to the end of the line at milepost 123.3 near Seaside, CA, in Monterey County, CA.² The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 95012 and 93955.

UP has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at

¹ This notice of exemption supersedes the Board's notice served and published in *Union Pacific Railroad Company—Discontinuance of Trackage Rights Exemption—in Monterey County, CA*, STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 157X) (STB served Oct. 10, 2003) (68 FR 58748-49).

² On October 10, 2003, UP filed this revised notice of exemption, as supplemented on November 3, 2003, to take the place of the notice that it had previously filed on September 22, 2003. UP states that it has determined that initially it should have filed to abandon its interest in the line, rather than merely to discontinue trackage rights because, under the purchase and sale agreement with the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), UP reserved an exclusive railroad easement for freight operations over the line. UP now seeks to abandon its entire right and obligation to provide service over the line. UP submits that the terms of the easement specifically provide that the easement shall terminate automatically upon the effective date of a decision by the Board granting UP abandonment authority and UP's satisfaction of any Board-imposed conditions. According to UP, the line was sold to TAMC effective September 12, 2003. See *Transportation Agency for Monterey County—Acquisition Exemption—Line of Union Pacific Railroad Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 34405 (STB served Oct. 3, 2003).

least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; (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 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 December 23, 2003, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,³ and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),⁴ must be filed by December 1, 2003. Petitions to reopen must be filed by December 11, 2003,⁵ with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to UP's representative: Mack H. Shumate, Jr., Senior General Attorney, 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920, Chicago, IL 60606.

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

UP has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's

³ 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.

⁴ Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

⁵ Because the line has already been sold to TAMC, a public agency, to conduct passenger service, requests for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 and public use under 49 CFR 1152.28 would not be appropriate here.

effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by November 28, 2003. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.] Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental and historic preservation conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), UP 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 UP's filing of a notice of consummation by November 21, 2004, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on the Board's Web site at WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.

Decided: November 10, 2003.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-28755 Filed 11-20-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form T

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form T, Forest Activities Schedule.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before January 20, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Allan Hopkins, at (202) 622-6665, or at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet, at Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Forest Activities Schedules.

OMB Number: 1545-0007.

Form Number: Form T.

Abstract: Form T is filed by individuals and corporations to report income and deductions from the operation of a timber business. The IRS uses Form T to determine if the correct amounts of income and deductions are claimed.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the Form T at this time.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 37,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 34 hr., 43 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,284,640.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the

information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 17, 2003.

R. Joseph Durbala,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-29166 Filed 11-20-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[REG-251698-96]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request For Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, REG-251698-96 (TD 8869), Subchapter S Subsidiaries (§§ 1.1361-3, 1.1361-5, and 1.1362-8).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before January 20, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of this regulation should be directed to Allan Hopkins, at (202) 622-6665, or at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the internet at Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Subchapter S Subsidiaries.

OMB Number: 1545-1590.

Regulation Project Number: REG-251698-96.

Abstract: This regulation relates to the treatment of corporate subsidiaries of S corporations and interprets the rules added to the Internal Revenue Code by