

transmission line to connect to the existing Algonquin HubLine.

Neptune would have an average throughput capacity of 500 million standard cubic feet per day (MMscfd) and a peak capacity of approximately 750 MMscfd. Natural gas would be sent out by means of two flexible risers and subsea flowlines leading to a 24-inch gas transmission pipeline. The transmission pipeline would connect the deepwater port to the existing 30-inch Algonquin HubLine. No onshore components or storage facilities are associated with the proposed deepwater port application. Construction of the deepwater port components would be expected to take 36 months, with a startup of commercial operations in late 2009. The deepwater port would be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable codes and standards and would have an expected operating life of approximately 20 years.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permits

Pipelines within the three-mile limit require an Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Structures such as the moorings and lateral pipelines beyond the three-mile limit require a Section 10 permit.

As required by their regulations, the USACE has maintained a permit file. The USACE New England District phone number is 978-318-8338 and their Web site is <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>.

Comments sent to the USACE have been incorporated into the EIS; will continue to be incorporated into the DOT docket; and will continue to be considered in the licensing and USACE permitting decisions. The USACE, among others, is a cooperating agency; is assisting in the NEPA process as described in 40 CFR 1501.6., and has conducted joint public hearings with the Coast Guard and MARAD.

Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)

Through a Special Review Procedure established by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), the USCG and the MEPA Office are conducting a coordinated NEPA/MEPA review allowing a single document to serve simultaneously as both the EIS under NEPA and the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under MEPA. The Certificates establishing the Special Review Procedure and the Scope for the Draft Environmental Impact Report can be viewed at <http://www.mass.gov/envir/mepa/secondlevelpages/>

recentdecisions.htm. The EIR will be published in the Environmental Monitor on November 8, 2006; ENF comments are due November 28, 2006; ENF decisions are due December 8, 2006; the Secretary of Environmental Affairs will accept written comments on the Environmental Impact Report through December 8, 2006; and the EIR decisions (Certificate) is due December 15, 2006. Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, via FAX, or by hand delivery. Please note that comments submitted on MEPA documents are public records. The mailing address for comments is: Secretary Robert W. Golledge, Jr., EOEA, Attn: MEPA Office, Richard Bourre, EOEA No. 13473/13474, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston MA 02114.

Dated: October 30, 2006.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. E6-18496 Filed 11-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-998X]

Timber Rock Railroad, Inc.— Discontinuance of Service Exemption—In Burleson, Brazos, Grimes, Montgomery, Liberty, Hardin and Jefferson Counties, TX

On October 13, 2006, Timber Rock Railroad, Inc. (TIBR) filed with the Surface Transportation Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903. TIBR seeks to discontinue service over a 116-mile portion of rail line that it operates under lease from BNSF Railway Company (BNSF), the owner of the line. The line extends between (1) milepost 149.5 near Silsbee, TX, and milepost 52.5 near Dobbin, TX, (2) milepost 20.70 near Silsbee, TX, and milepost 4.5 near Beaumont, TX, and (3) milepost 149.5 and milepost 152.30 and track No. 498 in the Silsbee Yard near Silsbee, TX. TIBR also seeks to discontinue its 54.72 miles of overhead trackage rights operations over BNSF lines extending between (1) milepost 52.5 near Dobbin, TX, and milepost 144.0 on the BNSF Galveston Subdivision at Somerville, TX, and (2) milepost 4.5 near Beaumont, TX, and milepost 2.28 at Beaumont, TX.¹ The

¹ TIBR was authorized to lease from BNSF and operate approximately 117.82 miles of rail line in Texas. TIBR also was authorized to acquire 54.72 miles of incidental overhead trackage rights over connecting BNSF rail lines. See *Timber Rock*

lines traverse U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 77703, 77708, 77713, 77657, 77709, 77656, 77625, 77374, 77376, 77369, 77368, 77327, 77328, 77301, 77302, 77304, 77306, 77316, 77356, 77333, 77363, 77868, 77869 and 77879. The lines are located in Burleson, Brazos, Grimes, Montgomery, Liberty, Hardin and Jefferson Counties, TX. They include the stations of Dobbin, Montgomery, Conroe, Youens, Waukegan, Security, Fostoria, Cleveland, Hightower, Rayburn, Dollen, Romayor, Votaw, Bragg, Honey Island and Kountze. TIBR states that BNSF will resume providing both local and overhead operations on the lines.

The lines do not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in TIBR'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 issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by January 31, 2007.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) to subsidize continued rail service will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer must be accompanied by a \$1,300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).²

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-998X, and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001, and (2) Karl Morell, Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, NW., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Persons seeking further information concerning discontinuance 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.

Railroad, Inc. Lease Exemption—The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, STB Finance Docket No. 34503 (STB served July 14, 2004, and Oct. 8, 2004). TIBR will continue to lease the 0.46-mile line between milepost 0.5 and milepost 0.96 near Kirbyville, TX, a .26-mile portion between milepost 152.30 and milepost 152.56 at Silsbee, TX, and a 1.10-mile portion between milepost 20.70 and 21.8 at Silsbee, TX, and the Silsbee Yard Tracks, except for Track No. 498, to accommodate better the continued interchange of traffic between BNSF and TIBR at Silsbee, TX.

² Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Likewise, no environmental or historic documentation is required under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and 1105.8.

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.]

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: October 25, 2006.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-18411 Filed 11-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Performance Review Board Members

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4) agencies are required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** of the appointment of Performance Review Board (PRB) members. This notice updates the VA Performance Review Board of the Department of Veterans Affairs that was published in the **Federal Register** on 70 FR 61510, October 24, 2005.

DATES: *Effective Date:* November 2, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charlotte Moment, Office of Human Resources Management (052B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8165.

VA Performance Review Board (PRB)

R. Allen Pittman, Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration (Chairperson).

Thomas G. Bowman, Chief of Staff.
Sharon K. Barnes, Deputy Chief of Staff (Alternate).

Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration.
Michael Walcoff, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Operations, Veterans Benefits Administration (Alternate).
Gerald M. Cross, M.D., FAAFP, Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration.
William F. Feeley, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management, Veterans Health Administration (Alternate).
Arthur S. Hamerschlag, Chief of Staff, Veterans Health Administration (Alternate).
John H. Thompson, Deputy General Counsel.
Rita Reed, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management.
Jon A. Wooditch, Deputy Inspector General.
Robert T. Howard, Executive Director.
Kenneth M. Greenberg, Executive Secretary to the Department.
Richard Wannemacher, Jr., Senior Advisor.

Veterans Benefits Administration PRB

Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, (Chairperson).
Geraldine V. Breakfield, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Management.
Jack F. McCoy, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Policy & Program Management.
Michael Walcoff, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Field Operations.
James Bohmbach, Chief Financial Officer.
Diana M. Rubens, Director, Western Area Office.
Sharon K. Barnes, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary.

Veterans Health Administration PRB

Gerald M. Cross, MD, FAAFP, Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health.
William F. Feeley, Vice-Chair, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management.

Linda W. Belton, Network Director, VISN 11.
Everett A. Chasen, Chief Communications Officer.
Jeanette A. Chirico-Post, MD, Network Director, VISN 1.
Barbara B. Fleming, MD, PhD, Chief Quality and Performance Officer.
Arthur S. Hamerschlag, VHA Chief of Staff.
W. Paul Kearns III, Acting Chief Financial Officer.
Robert E. Lynch, MD, Network Director, VISN 16.
James J. Nocks, M.D., Network Director, VISN 5.
Robert A. Petzel, MD, Network Director, VISN 23.
Catherine J. Rick, RN, MSN, Chief Nursing Officer.
James Roseborough, Network Director, VISN 12.
Patricia Vandenberg, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning.
Nevin M. Weaver, Director, Management Support Office (Ex Officio).
Robert L. Wiebe, MD, Network Director, VISN 21.
Joseph A. Williams, Jr., Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management.
Sharon K. Barnes, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary.

Office of Inspector General PRB

Elliot P. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Department of Labor.
Michael P. Stephens, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General.
Thomas J. Howard, Deputy Inspector General, National Air and Space Administration, Office of Inspector General.

Dated: October 26, 2006.

R. James Nicholson,

Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. E6-18419 Filed 11-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P