

Engineer, Communications and Signals, 500 Water Street, SC J-350, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

CSX Transportation, Incorporated (CSX) seeks approval of the proposed modification of an interlocking, discontinuance and removal of traffic control system signals, and the conversion of power-operated switches to hand-throw operation, from Gladstone (Milepost CAB-119.2) to Clifton Forge, Virginia (Milepost CAB-229.4), on the Huntington Division, James River Subdivision. The #168L Signal on #1 Main Track will be discontinued and removed. The interlocking at Lynchburg (Milepost CAB-146.1) was originally configured of two tracks crossing one track at-grade and two turnouts; the crossings at-grade, along with the turnout off of #2 Main Track have been removed. The #165 power-operated switch off #1 Main Track will be converted to hand-throw operation, and the governing signals will be discontinued and removed. The #116L and #116R controlled signals at major Milepost CAB-167.3 will be discontinued and removed. The #109 power-operated switch off of #1 Main Track at Balcony Falls (Milepost CAB-175.0) will be converted to hand-throw operation, and the governing signals will be discontinued and removed. The #107 power-operated switch off of #1 Main Track at K Cabin (Milepost CAB-175.3) will be converted to hand-throw operation and the governing signals will be discontinued and removed. The #68R and #66L controlled signals at WAS Springwood (Milepost CAB-198.9) will be discontinued and removed. The #58L and #58R controlled signals at Lyle (Milepost CAB-202.3) will be discontinued and removed. The electric lock switch off of single main track at Milepost CAB-212.93 will be converted to a no clear location and the electric lock mechanism will be removed.

Pole line elimination and the installation of a microprocessor-based signal system are the reasons given for the proposed changes. Furthermore, CSX contends that present-day operations do not warrant retaining the power-operated switches and controlled signals.

Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and include a concise statement of the interest of the party in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral

hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by Docket Number FRA-2007-28575 and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic site;

- *Fax:* 202-493-2251;

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590; or

- *Hand Delivery:* Room W12-140 of the U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FRA wishes to inform all potential commenters that anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on July 30, 2007.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System or Relief From the Requirements of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 236

Pursuant to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 235 and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), the following railroad has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of the signal system or relief from the requirements of 49 CFR Part 236, as detailed below.

[Docket Number FRA-2007-28574]

Applicant: Union Pacific Railroad, Mr. Thomas T. Ogee, AVP Engineering Design, 1400 Douglas Street, Stop 0910, Omaha, Nebraska 68179.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) seeks approval of the proposed discontinuance and removal of the rail locks on the Mississippi River moveable bridge, located near Clinton, Iowa, on the UP Geneva Subdivision at Milepost 136.7. The installation of new self-aligning lift rails with solid operating linkage will eliminate the need for the rail locks.

The reason given for the proposed changes is that the remaining appliances on the bridge will provide required protection.

Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and include a concise statement of the interest of the party in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by Docket Number FRA-2007-28574 and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic site;

- *Fax:* 202-493-2251;

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590; or

• *Hand Delivery:* Room W12-140 of the U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.–5 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FRA wishes to inform all potential commenters that anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on July 30, 2007.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.**,

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

#### Preparation of an Alternatives Analysis/Environmental Impact Statement for High-Capacity Transit Improvements in the Central Mesa Corridor

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Alternatives Analysis/Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Valley Metro Rail, Inc. (METRO) intend to prepare an Alternatives Analysis (AA) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on proposed high capacity transit improvements, including a potential light rail transit (LRT) and/or bus rapid transit (BRT) in the Central Mesa Corridor between the LRT Starter Line eastern terminus and Power Road (a distance of approximately 13 miles) in

the City of Mesa in Maricopa County, Arizona. The proposed study area is bounded on the west by the LRT Starter Line eastern terminus at Main Street/Sycamore; University Boulevard to the north; Power Road to the east; and the Superstition Freeway (US 60) on the south. The AA/EIS will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The AA/EIS process will be initiated with a scoping process that provides opportunities for the public to comment on the scope of the project and proposed alternatives to be considered in the AA and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). This input will be used to assist decisionmakers in determining a locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the Central Mesa Corridor. Upon selection of an LPA, METRO will request permission from FTA to enter into preliminary engineering per requirements of New Starts regulations 49 CFR part 611. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will be issued after FTA approves entrance into preliminary engineering.

The purpose of this notice is to alert interested parties regarding the intent to prepare the AA/EIS, to provide information on the nature of the proposed project and possible alternatives, to invite public participation in the AA/EIS process, including comments on the scope of the alternatives proposed in this notice, to announce that public scoping meetings will be conducted, and to identify participating agency contacts.

**DATES:** Written and e-mailed comments on the scope of study, including the alternatives to be considered, and the impacts to be assessed, should be sent to Valley Metro Rail, Inc. (METRO) on or before September 13, 2007. See **ADDRESSES** below for the street address and e-mail address to which written comments may be sent. Public scoping meetings to accept comments on the scope of the study will be held on the following dates:

- Thursday, August 23, 2007, at 6 p.m., Mesa City Plaza, Training Room 170, 20 E. Main Street, Mesa, Arizona 85201.
- Thursday, August 30, 2007, at 6 p.m., Jefferson Elementary School, Recreation Center, 120 S. Jefferson Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85208.

An interagency scoping meeting will be held on the following date:

- Tuesday, August 21, 2007, at 10 a.m., Valley Metro Rail, Inc. (METRO), 101 North 1st Avenue, Suite 1300, Phoenix, AZ 85003.

The project's purpose and need and the initial set of alternatives proposed

for study will be presented at these meetings. The buildings used for the scoping meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities. Any individual who requires special assistance, such as a sign language interpreter, to participate in a scoping meeting should contact Jodi Sorrell, City of Mesa, 600 SE. Sixth Street, Mesa, AZ 85211 (Telephone 480-644-5541) at least 48 hours in advance of a meeting in order for METRO and the City of Mesa to make the necessary arrangements.

Scoping materials will be available at the meetings and through the project's Web site at <http://www.metrolightrail.org/centralmesa>. Hard copies of the scoping materials are also available from Mr. Marc Soronson whose contact information is given in **ADDRESSES** below.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to the attention of Mr. Marc Soronson, Valley Metro Rail, Inc., 101 North 1st Avenue, Suite 1300, Phoenix, AZ 85003. E-mail [centralmesa@metrolightrail.org](mailto:centralmesa@metrolightrail.org). Phone: (602) 744-5545, Fax: (602) 252-7453. The locations of the public scoping meetings are given above under **DATES**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Hymie Luden, Office of Planning and Program Development, Federal Transit Administration, 201 Mission Street, Room 1650, San Francisco, CA 94105. Phone: (415) 744-2732.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Scoping

The FTA and Valley Metro Rail, Inc. (METRO) invite all interested individuals and organizations, public agencies, and Native American Tribes to comment on the scope of the alternatives analysis and the EIS, including the project's preliminary statement of purpose and need, the alternatives to be studied and the impacts to be evaluated. Comments should focus on the purpose and need for the proposed project; alternatives that may be less costly or have less environmental or community impacts while achieving similar transportation objectives; and the identification of any significant social, economic, or environmental issues relating to the alternatives.

##### Purpose and Need for the Project

The draft statement of the project purpose is currently under review by METRO and the City of Mesa, and will be refined further. In its current state, the purpose is defined as follows:

1. Identify a transit alternative that increases efficient access to employment