

The purpose of the transaction is to align the transportation-related activities of all of the rail carriers controlled by Fortress within RailAmerica, and to facilitate more efficient management of those carriers. The parties anticipate that the transaction will present opportunities to enhance the efficiency of both FECR and the RailAmerica Railroads through the sharing of locomotive and car fleets, consolidation of certain administrative functions, sharing of management expertise, and common purchasing of insurance, rolling stock, equipment and vehicles, track materials and other materials and supplies.

This is a transaction within a corporate family of the type specifically exempted from prior review and approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3). According to the parties, the transaction will not result in adverse changes in service levels, significant operational changes, or changes in the competitive balance with carriers outside the corporate family.

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. As a condition to the use of this exemption, any employees adversely affected by this transaction will be protected by the conditions set forth in *New York Dock Ry.—Control—Brooklyn Eastern Dist.*, 360 I.C.C. 60 (1979).

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 effectiveness of the exemption. Stay petitions must be filed no later than March 26, 2008 (at least 7 days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 35123, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Terence M. Hynes, Sidley Austin LLP, 1501 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005.

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

Decided: March 11, 2008.

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

**Anne K. Quinlan,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E8-5546 Filed 3-18-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-398 (Sub-No. 8X)]

#### San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Tulare County, CA

On February 28, 2008, San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company (SJVR) filed with the Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a 9.20-mile portion of its South Exeter Branch extending between milepost 259.40, near Exeter, and milepost 268.60, near Strathmore, in Tulare County, CA. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 93221, 93247, and 93267, and includes the stations of Strathmore and Lindsay.

The line sought to be abandoned does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in SJVR'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).

Petitioner indicates that the proposed abandonment may generate comments, and it requests that the Board adopt a procedural schedule to allow it to file rebuttal to any comments received. Instead of addressing the request at this time, the Board will allow petitioner to raise the matter again if comments and replies in response to the petition are actually filed. Comments and replies to the petition for exemption are due on or before April 8, 2008. Once comments and replies are filed, SJVR may request leave to file rebuttal.

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 June 17, 2008.

Any 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 \$1,300 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 April 8, 2008. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$200 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27)(i).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-398 (Sub-No. 8X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Louis E. Gitomer, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

Persons seeking further information concerning the abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Governmental and Public Affairs at (202) 245-0230 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) 245-0305. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service 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: March 13, 2008.

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

**Anne K. Quinlan,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 13, 2008.

The Department of the Treasury will submit the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the