DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB–55 (Sub-No. 698X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington Counties, IN

On December 18, 2009, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed with the Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for an exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to discontinue service over a 62.3-mile line of railroad on its Northern Region, Louisville Division, Hoosier Subdivision, between milepost 00Q 251.7, near Bedford, and milepost 00Q 314.0, near New Albany, in Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington Counties, IN.1 The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 47150, 47172, 47106, 47143, 47165, 47167, 47108, 47452, 47446, and 47421, and includes the stations of Orleans, Leipsic, Campbellsburg, Salem, Pekin, and Borden.

CSXT states that 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 April 7, 2010.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) for subsidy 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 $1,500 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(2).2

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB–55 (Sub-No. 698X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001; and (2) Louis E. Gitomer, 600 Baltimore Ave., Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204. Replies to the petition are due on or before January 27, 2010.

Persons seeking further information concerning discontinuance procedures may contact the Board’s Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at (202) 245–0238 or refer to the full abandonment and 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.

A clearance clerk is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at http://www.stb.dot.gov.


By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kulanie L. Cannon, Clearance Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Sherburne and Stearns Counties, MN

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent to terminate Tier I EIS.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to announce that the Tier I Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for a proposed east/west minor arterial connection between Trunk Highway (TH) 15 and TH 10, including a crossing of the Mississippi River, in an area south of 10th Street South and north of Interstate 94 in the St. Cloud Metropolitan Area, Sherburne and Stearns Counties, Minnesota is terminated. The original Notice of Intent for this Tier I EIS process was published in the Federal Register on December 26, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cheryl Martin, Environmental and Civil Rights Specialist, Federal Highway Administration, Galtier Plaza, Suite 500, 380 Jackson Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101, Telephone (651) 291–6120; or Scott Mareck, Executive Director and Transportation Planning Manager, St. Cloud Area Planning Organization, 1040 County Road Four, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56303, Telephone (320) 252–7568.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the St. Cloud Area Planning Organization and Sherburne and Stearns Counties, has terminated the Tier I EIS process begun in 2002 to address the need for improved east/west minor arterial continuity, land use and trip generation growth, and forecasted 2025 congestion on existing bridges. The purpose of the Tier I EIS was to preserve right of way for the proposed highway improvement, including a crossing of the Mississippi River. The Scoping Decision Document for the project was approved by Stearns and Sherburne Counties on June 14, 2005 and April 21, 2005, respectively. An Amended Scoping Decision Document was to separate the project into two independent projects by dividing the project at the intersection of Stearns County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 75. The first of these two projects (the 33rd Street Project), will extend from TH 15 easterly along existing 33rd Street South to its junction with CSAH 75. The second project (the Mississippi River Crossing Project) will extend from CSAH 75 easterly to TH 10 in Sherburne County. On October 3, 2006, the St. Cloud Area Planning Organization notified Federal, State and local agencies; interested parties; and the public that work on the 33rd Street Project would proceed as an Environmental Assessment and that the Tier I EIS for the Mississippi River Crossing Project would proceed at an undetermined future date. Therefore, the EIS for this project has been terminated.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations

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1 CSXT owns the line and acknowledges that it cannot abandon the line until its subsidiary, The Indiana Rail Road Company (INRD) discontinues service under the trackage rights it obtained in the The Indiana Rail Road Company—Acquisition—Soo Line Railroad Company, STB Finance Docket No. 34783 (STB served Apr. 11, 2006).

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