DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Surface Transportation Board
[Docket No. FD 35461]

Carolina Coastal Railway, Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Carolina Coastal Railway, Inc. (CLNA), a Class III carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption 1 under 49 CFR 1150.41 to lease and operate, pursuant to an amendment to an existing lease agreement entered into on June 22, 2007, with Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), a line of railroad known as the SB Line located between milepost 134.2 at Kings Creek, S.C., and milepost 141.35 at Blacksburg, S.C., located entirely in Cherokee County, S.C. 2 According to CLNA, the total length of the line is about 7.5 miles, including approximately 0.3 miles of connecting track between the SB Line and NSR’s Blacksburg Yard. The lease and operation transaction also includes operating rights for interchange purposes in NSR’s Blacksburg Yard.

As a result of this transaction, CLNA will continue providing common carrier rail freight service to International Minerals, Inc., the sole remaining customer located at Kings Creek. According to CLNA, the amendment to the lease does not contain any language limiting CLNA’s ability to interchange with other carriers. See 49 CFR 1150.43(h).

CLNA certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of the transaction will not exceed $5 million annually and will not result in it becoming a Class I or Class II rail carrier.

The earliest this transaction can be consummated is February 18, 2011, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the exemption was filed). CLNA states that it plans to consummate the transaction on or about 30 days from the date of filing its notice of exemption. 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 transaction. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than February 11, 2011 (at least 7 days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35461, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20423–0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on John D. Hefner, John D. Hefner, PLLC, 1750 K Street, NW., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20006.

1 A milepost referenced in the notice of exemption was clarified by letter filed on January 27, 2011.

2 CLNA states that it has executed an amendment to its existing lease with NSR, which expires on June 30, 2027, that covers the proposed lease and operation of the SB Line. The line is currently owned and operated by NSR.

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

Decided: January 28, 2011.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzig
Clearance Clerk.

FR Doc. 2011–2356 Filed 2-3-11; 8:45 am

BILLING CODE 4910–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Surface Transportation Board
[Docket No. FD 35380]

San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad—Petition for a Declaratory Order

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Staff members of the Surface Transportation Board will hold a public meeting concerning the declaratory order proceeding in the above-titled docket. The purpose of the meeting is to allow interested persons to comment on the issues raised in the proceeding.

Date/Location: The public meeting will take place on Thursday, February 17, 2011, beginning at 10 a.m. (local time), in Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Hall, 6631 County Road 13, Conejos, Colorado 81129.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In response to a petition filed by San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad (SLRG), the Board instituted a declaratory order proceeding under 5 U.S.C. 554(e) and 49 U.S.C. 721 on August 12, 2010, to determine whether the Board’s jurisdiction preempts the land-use code of Conejos County, Colorado (County) that may otherwise apply to SLRG’s proposed operation of a truck-to-rail transload facility in Antonito, Colorado. See San Luis & Rio Grande R.R.—Petition for a Declaratory Order, FD 35380 (STB served Aug. 12, 2010) (August decision). Specifically, the facility will be used to transfer containers and/or bags of contaminated dirt and debris from trucks originating at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico to railcars.

In the August decision, instituting a proceeding, the Board opened the matter for public comment on the petition and gave SLRG the opportunity...
to supplement its filing. The Board requested that the filings focus on issues related to the Clean Railroads Act of 2008, 49 U.S.C. 10501(c)(2), 10908–10910 (CRA), including whether SLRG’s containers are original shipping containers under 49 U.S.C. 10908(e)(1)(H)(i), and whether the dirt SLRG plans to transload and transport is subject to the CRA. The August decision also established an initial procedural schedule.

In response to the Board’s request for public comments, several entities and individuals filed comments. One such entity, Conejos County Clean Water, Inc. (CCCW) included in its extensive comments a request for the opportunity to provide oral public comments on what the Board deemed novel issues at a hearing proceeding in Conejos County. In support of this request, CCCW attached a letter from its Chair explaining that Conejos County is the poorest county in Colorado with a median income of $24,744, making it almost impossible for its residents to travel to Washington, DC to participate in this proceeding. By decision served December 20, 2010, the Board granted the request for a public meeting in Conejos County to be held by Board staff to give local stakeholders the opportunity to provide public comment on the proceeding.

During the public meeting, Board staff will hear comments regarding the declaratory order proceeding. The meeting will continue until all interested persons or parties have had an opportunity to speak. Persons wishing to speak should place their names on the list of speakers upon arrival at the Parish Hall of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. A court reporter will transcribe the meeting and prepare a transcript that will be included in the public record of the proceeding.

All decisions, notices, and filings in this proceeding are available on the Board’s Web site at http://www.stb.dot.gov. A transcript of the meeting will also be posted on the Board’s Web site.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

Dated: January 31, 2011.

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

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.
[FR Doc. 2011–2460 Filed 2–3–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4915–01–P