DATES: Submit comments on or before November 29, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD–2013–0114. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at http://www.regulations.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel WEATHERVANE is:

**Intended Commercial Use of Vessel:** “Private 1.5 hour harbor tours for up to 6 paying persons”

**Geographic Region:** “Massachusetts”

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD–2013–0114 at http://www.regulations.gov. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-flag vessel or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter’s interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received in 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).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: October 22, 2013.

Julie P. Agarwal,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2013–25414 Filed 10–28–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–81–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. MCF 21055]

Celerity Partners IV, LLC, Celerity AHI Holdings SPV, LLC, and All Aboard America! Holdings, Inc.—Control—Sureride Charter Inc. d/b/a Sundiego Charter Company

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Notice tentatively authorizing finance transaction.

SUMMARY: All Aboard America! Holdings, Inc. (AHI), Celerity AHI Holdings SPV, LLC (Celerity Holdings), and Celerity Partners IV, LLC (Celerity Partners) (collectively, Applicants) have filed an application under 49 U.S.C. 14303 for their acquisition of control of Sureride Charter, Inc. d/b/a Sundiego Charter Company (Sundiego). The Board is tentatively approving and authorizing the transaction, and, if no opposing comments are timely filed, this notice will be the final Board action. Persons wishing to oppose the application must follow the rules at 49 CFR 1182.5 and 1182.8.1

DATES: Comments must be filed by December 13, 2013. Applicants may file a reply by December 30, 2013. If no comments are filed by December 13, 2013, this notice shall be effective on December 14, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of any comments referring to Docket No. MCF 21055 to: Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, send copies of comments to Applicant’s representative: Mark J. Andrews, Strasburger & Price, LLP, Suite 640, 1700 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20006.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: AHI is a noncarrier corporation established under the laws of Delaware. A plurality of AHI’s stock is held by a group of investors participating in Celerity Holdings, a noncarrier limited liability company organized under the laws of Delaware. Celerity Partners, the managing member of Celerity Holdings, is also a noncarrier limited liability company organized under the laws of Delaware. Applicants currently control two carriers, Hotard Coaches, Inc. (Coaches) and Industrial Bus Lines, Inc. (IBL). Coaches and Industrial hold authority from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) as motor carriers of passengers (license nos. MC–143881 and MC–133171, respectively). Coaches operates in Louisiana and southern Mississippi, while Industrial operates in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

Sundiego is a California corporation and is controlled through stock ownership by Richard and Beverly Ann Illes (Mr. and Mrs. Illes), noncarrier individuals residing in California. Sundiego holds authority from the FMCSA as a motor carrier of passengers (MC–324772) and holds an intrastate registration from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as a Class B charter-party carrier of passengers. Applicants state that Sundiego operates 58 full-sized motor coaches and 9 smaller vehicles (including minibuses, vans, and a limousine). According to Applicants, Sundiego conducts charter, sightseeing, and various types of shuttle operations for a variety of customers out of its headquarters in National City, Cal., a suburb of San Diego. Applicants state that these operations are conducted to, from, and within California and adjoining states, as well as to Mexico. Applicants indicate that 65 percent of Sundiego’s revenues are derived from contracted transit and dedicated shuttle operations, with the remainder from charter operations. Of those charter operations, airport transfers account for 10 percent and cruise ship transfers account for 4 percent of Sundiego’s revenues.2

3 Applicants note that Sundiego also holds authority to operate a network of interstate regular route motor passenger common carrier operations

1 Due to the Government shutdown, this notice was not able to be published in the Federal Register within 30 days after the application was received. All dates and deadlines in this notice will be calculated based on the date of publication, October 28, 2013.


Under the proposed transaction, Applicants seek permission for AHI (and for Celerity Holdings and Celerity Partners indirectly) to acquire 100 percent control of Sundiego through a stock purchase agreement (SPA) between AHI and Mr. and Mrs. Illes. According to Applicants, top management at Sundiego would remain involved in the business after the acquisition, and Mr. and Mrs. Illes would become minority shareholders in AHI. Applicants state that closing of the proposed transaction is scheduled on or about December 10, 2013, if Board approval is obtained by then.

Under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), the Board must approve and authorize a transaction that it finds consistent with the public interest, taking into consideration at least: (1) The effect of the proposed transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public; (2) the total fixed charges that result; and (3) the interest of affected carrier employees. Applicants have submitted information, as required by 49 CFR 1182.2, including the information to demonstrate that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), and a statement that Applicants’ motor carrier and Sundiego’s aggregate gross operating revenues for the preceding 12 months exceeded $2 million, see 49 U.S.C. 14303(g).

With respect to the effect of the transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public, Applicants state that the proposed acquisition would have no significant impact because Applicants do not intend to change substantially the physical operations historically conducted by Sundiego. Rather, Applicants anticipate enhancing operations by implementing vehicle sharing arrangements, by providing coordinated driver training and safety management services, and by centralizing various management support functions. With respect to fixed charges, Applicants state that their control of Sundiego would generate economies of scale that would reduce a variety of unit costs and that, with its increased market position, Applicants would be able to access financing on more favorable terms. In addition to better interest rates, Applicants expect that the combined carriers would be able to enhance modestly their volume purchasing power, thus reducing insurance premiums and achieve deeper volume discounts for equipment and fuel. Applicants state that the transaction would have a positive impact on employee interests, as the economies and efficiencies resulting from the proposed acquisition would directly benefit Sundiego’s employees by maintaining job security and retaining or expanding the volume of available work.

Applicants further state that the acquisition would have no adverse impact on competition, because the geographic markets in which Sundiego and Coaches/Industriale compete are adjacent, but do not significantly overlap. Industrial’s primary service areas in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas are west of Sundiego’s California-based market. Applicants note that round trips generated by each carrier might extend into overlapping states, but the beginning and end points seldom, if ever, overlap between Sundiego and Coaches/Industriale.

Applicants also state that Sundiego faces other competition in both charter and shuttle services in San Diego and Los Angeles. Further, Applicants note that services provided under contract and on a “spot basis” also face competition from local and nationwide operators. Applicants state that competition includes five locally-based carriers, three carriers in the Los Angeles area, and four large nationwide providers of service.

On the basis of the application, the Board finds that the proposed acquisition is consistent with the public interest and should be tentatively approved and authorized. If any opposing comments are timely filed, these findings will be deemed vacated, and, unless a final decision can be made on the record as developed, a procedural schedule will be adopted to reconsider the application. See 49 CFR 1182.6(c). If no opposing comments are filed by the expiration of the comment period, this notice will take effect automatically and will be the final Board action.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at www.stb.dot.gov. This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:
1. The proposed transaction is approved and authorized, subject to the filing of opposing comments.
2. If opposing comments are timely filed, the findings made in this notice will be deemed vacated.
3. This notice will be effective December 14, 2013, unless opposing comments are filed by December 13, 2013.

4. A copy of this notice will be served on: (1) The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590; (2) the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20530; and (3) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

Decided: October 23, 2013.

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Begeman, and Commissioner Mulvey.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2013-25582 Filed 10-28-13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Surface Transportation Board
[Docket No. FD 35774]
Youngstown & Southeastern Railway Company—Operation Exemption—Mule Sidetracks, L.L.C.

Youngstown & Southeastern Railway Company (Y&S), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to continue to operate a line of railroad that extends 35.7 miles between milepost 0.0 in Youngstown, Ohio, and milepost 35.7 in Darlington, Pa., (the Line). The Line is currently owned by Columbiana County Port Authority (CCPA) and has been operated by Y&S under a lease from CCPA. In addition, Y&S will operate as an agent of, and in the name of, Mule Sidetracks, L.L.C. (MSLLC), three miles of contiguous track segments, running east of milepost 0.0 and connecting to the Line, that are being permanently assigned by CCPA to MSLLC and will facilitate interchange with Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) and CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT).1

1These operating rights are found in the following agreements: (1) Overhead Trackage Rights Agreement dated May 7, 2001, between Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad Company (OHPA) and Central Columbiana & Pennsylvania Railway, Inc. (CQPA), to which CCPA is successor; (2) Letter Agreement regarding yard operations dated November 30, 2001, between OHPA, CQPA, and CSXT; (3) Interchange Agreement dated July 23, 2002, as amended and in effect, among CSXT, OHPA, and CQPA and Interline Service Agreement, effective April 1, 2004, between CSXT and CQPA, to which CQPA is successor; (4) Land Lease dated August 8, 2003, between CSXT and CQPA, which was assumed by CQPA, effective January 3, 2006; (5) Interchange Agreement dated May 1, 2001, and Continued