

other national level ABS implementation. We also welcome examples of:

(1) Monetary or non-monetary benefits to the global public health system that are facilitated by international sharing of pathogens, biospecimens, pathogen genetic sequence data, and/or relevant metadata.

(2) Influenza-specific issues and/or examples related to the items described above or other items that could affect global influenza pandemic preparedness and response or efforts to combat seasonal influenza.

(3) Non-ABS challenges and barriers with sharing pathogens internationally or that otherwise have significant implications for global pandemic or epidemic preparedness and response efforts that might merit additional attention or analysis.

**Background:** Biological threats to the U.S. homeland—whether as the result of deliberate attack, accident, or a natural outbreak—are growing and require actions to address them at their source. Naturally emerging outbreaks of viruses such as Ebola and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), as well as the deliberate 2001 anthrax attacks in the United States, demonstrated the impact of biological threats on national security by taking lives, generating economic losses, and contributing to a loss of confidence in government institutions. To effectively prepare for or respond to epidemic and pandemic infectious disease threats, the United States government and other public health actors need rapid, systematic, and consistent access to both information and samples from outbreaks, including pathogens, related clinical material, pathogen genetic sequence data, epidemiological data, and relevant metadata. The Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework facilitate the sharing of samples of influenza viruses and access to vaccines and other benefits. WHO is engaging with Member States, stakeholders, and other UN bodies to better understand the impacts of Nagoya Protocol and other ABS measures on public health, including the sharing of influenza and non-influenza pathogens.

Several meetings are planned in association with this request for written submissions.

**Time and Date:** Two initial meetings are planned on Tuesday, June 25 and Friday, September 20, 2019. Each meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. EDT and last for up to two hours. If the Department decides to hold additional

public meetings, the time and place will be announced on the Department website: <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-economic-growth-energy-and-the-environment/bureau-of-oceans-and-international-environmental-and-scientific-affairs/office-of-international-health-and-biodefense/>.

**Place:** The two initial meetings will be held at the U.S. State Department's Harry S. Truman Building, 2201 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20520. Please use the 21st Street entrance, and plan to arrive at least twenty minutes prior to the start of the meeting to allow for ID verification and escorting requirements.

**Status:** The meetings will be open to the public. Persons planning on attending must provide their full name and organization to Dr. Jennifer Seedorff at [seedorffje@state.gov](mailto:seedorffje@state.gov) and copy [RSVP-IHB@state.gov](mailto:RSVP-IHB@state.gov) at least three days prior to each meeting. Persons who need special accommodations should also contact Dr. Seedorff at [seedorffje@state.gov](mailto:seedorffje@state.gov) or (202) 647-3017 and copy [RSVP-IHB@state.gov](mailto:RSVP-IHB@state.gov) at least seven days before each meeting. Requests made after that time will be considered, but might not be possible to accommodate. Personal data is requested pursuant to Public Law 99-399 (Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986), as amended; Public Law 107-56 (USA PATRIOT Act); and E.O. 13356. The purpose of the collection is to validate the identity of individuals who enter 1033 Department facilities. The data will be entered into the Visitor Access Control System (VACS-D) database. Please see the Security Records System of Records Notice (State-36) at <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/242611.pdf> for additional information.

Dated June 4, 2019.

**Jerrold L. Mallory,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science Space and Health (Acting), Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State.*

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## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**[Docket No. AB 1273X]**

### **New York & Greenwood Lake Railway—Abandonment Exemption— in Bergen and Passaic Counties, N.J.**

New York & Greenwood Lake Railway (NYGL) has filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the prior approval requirements of

49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon 1.1 miles of rail line extending between milepost 0.0 and milepost 1.1 in Bergen and Passaic Counties, N.J. (the Line).<sup>1</sup> The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 07055 and 07026.

According to NYGL, the Line was purchased in 2017 by Passaic Street Properties, LLC (PSP), through a tax foreclosure sale due to NYGL's failure to pay federal taxes. In 2018, PSP filed a notice of exemption in Docket No. FD 36187 to acquire the Line, which NYGL opposed. The Board rejected PSP's notice of exemption with respect to the Line.<sup>2</sup> NYGL states that, thereafter, it entered into negotiations with PSP and that the parties have reached a settlement in which NYGL has agreed to abandon the Line. NYGL filed the petition for exemption in accordance with the settlement agreement.

NYGL states that the Line has not had a significant amount of traffic since 2009 when its last customer went out of business. According to NYGL, starting in 2017, it renewed efforts to market the Line as a transload facility, and those efforts led to handling about eight carloads of traffic, which NYGL states is insufficient to produce a profit and enable NYGL to rehabilitate the trackage. NYGL states that PSP and the local governments wish to reclaim the right-of-way for urban redevelopment, and local planners seek to redevelop the area for residential and commercial purposes.

In addition to an exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903, NYGL also seeks an exemption from the offer of financial assistance (OFA) procedures of 49 U.S.C. 10904. NYGL states that the submission of an OFA could defeat the very purpose for which this abandonment has been filed. NYGL's request for exemption from section 10904 will be addressed in the final decision.

According to NYGL, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way, and any documentation in NYGL's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham &*

<sup>1</sup> NYGL initially submitted its petition on April 24, 2019, but supplemented it on May 10, 2019, and again on May 21, 2019. In light of NYGL's supplements, the petition is deemed to have been filed on May 21, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> *Passaic Street Props., LLC—Acquis. & Operation Exemption—N.Y. & Greenwood Lake Ry.*, FD 36187 (STB served July 18, 2018).

*Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 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 September 6, 2019.

Any OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 120 days after the filing of the petition for exemption, or 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption, whichever occurs sooner. Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer by June 20, 2019, indicating the type of financial assistance they wish to provide (*i.e.*, subsidy or purchase) and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. See 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(1)(i).

Following authorization for abandonment, 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 July 1, 2019.<sup>3</sup>

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 1273X and must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on NYGL's representative, Sloane S. Carlough, Clark Hill, PLC, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 1300 South, Washington, DC 20004. Replies to the petition are due on or before July 1, 2019.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238 or refer to the full abandonment regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any other agencies or persons who comment during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact OEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in 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 generally will be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available at [www.stb.gov](http://www.stb.gov).

Decided: June 5, 2019.

By the Board, Allison C. Davis, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzog,

Clearance Clerk.

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Additional Implementing Modification to Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice of additional implementing modification.

**SUMMARY:** In a notice published on May 9, 2019 (May 9 Notice), the U.S. Trade Representative (Trade Representative) increased the rate of additional duty from 10 percent to 25 percent for the products of China covered by the September 2018 action that are (i) entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on May 10, 2019, and (ii) exported to the United States on or after May 10, 2019. An implementing notice published on May 15, 2019 (May 15 Notice), provided that products of China that are covered by the September 2018 action and that were exported to the United States prior to May 10, 2019, are not subject to the additional duty of 25 percent, as long as these products are entered into the United States prior to June 1, 2019. This notice extends the June 1, 2019 date to June 15, 2019.

**DATES:** HTSUS heading 9903.88.09, set out in the Annex to the May 15 Notice and as amended by the Annex to this notice, applies to products of China covered by the September 2018 action that were exported before May 10, 2019, and entered into the United States on or after May 10, 2019, and before June 15, 2019. The modification in the Annex to this notice applies as of June 1, 2019.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For questions about this notice, contact Associate General Counsel Arthur Tsao or Assistant General Counsel Juli Schwartz, or Director of Industrial Goods Justin Hoffmann at (202) 395-

5725. For questions on customs classification or implementation of additional duties on products covered in the supplemental action, contact [traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the May 9 Notice (84 FR 20459), the Trade Representative modified the action being taken in the Section 301 investigation by increasing the rate of additional duty from 10 percent to 25 percent for the products of China covered by the September 2018 action in this investigation. The 'September 2018 action' refers to the additional duties on products of China with an annual trade value of approximately \$200 billion, published at 83 FR 47974 (Sep. 21, 2018), as modified by the notice published at 83 FR 49153 (September 28, 2018). Pursuant to the May 9 Notice, the increase in the rate of additional duty was effective on May 10, 2019.

The May 15 Notice (84 FR 21892) implemented the increase in the rate of additional duty by creating a new subheading in Chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) (9903.88.09) for products of China covered by the September 2018 action that were exported before May 10, 2019, and entered into the United States on or after May 10, 2019 and before June 1, 2019. HTSUS heading 9903.88.09 was limited to covered products of China entered into the United States during this period of time to account for customs enforcement factors and the average transit time between China and the United States by sea.

To account further for customs enforcement factors and the transit time for goods exported from China on or before May 10, 2019, and imported directly to the United States, the Trade Representative has determined to extend the June 1, 2019 date to June 15, 2019, as specified in the Annex to this notice. Thus, HTSUS 9903.88.09 applies to products of China covered by the September 2018 action that were exported from China before May 10, 2019, imported directly to the United States from China and entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after May 10, 2019 and before June 15, 2019. The modification in the Annex to this notice applies as of June 1, 2019.

The products of China covered by the September 2018 action that are admitted into a foreign-trade zone (FTZ) in 'Privileged Foreign' status shall retain that status consistent with 19 CFR 146.41(e) and will be subject, at the time of entry for consumption, to the

<sup>3</sup> Filing fees for OFAs and trail use requests can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25) and (27), respectively.