

decision will be issued by January 22, 2020.

Any offer of financial assistance (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 November 4, 2019, indicating the type of financial assistance they wish to provide (*i.e.*, subsidy or purchase) and demonstrating that they are preliminary 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 interim trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than November 13, 2019.<sup>2</sup>

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. AB 33 (Sub-No. 342X), 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 UP's representative, Jeremy M. Berman, Union Pacific Railroad Company, 1400 Douglas St., Stop 1580, Omaha, NE 68179, and the County's representative, Carolyn G. Kraska, Hogan Lovells US LLP, 555 13th St. NW, Washington, DC 20004. Replies to the petition are due on or before November 13, 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 agencies or other 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: October 18, 2019.

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

**Brendetta Jones,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2019-23203 Filed 10-23-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**[Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 1)]**

### **Notice of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC), pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. C.S.T.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Paducah & Louisville Railway headquarters at 200 Clark Street, Paducah, KY 42003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kristen Nunnally at (202) 245-0312 or [Kristen.Nunnally@stb.gov](mailto:Kristen.Nunnally@stb.gov). Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** RETAC was formed in 2007 to provide advice and guidance to the Board, and to serve as a forum for discussion of emerging issues related to the transportation of energy resources by rail, including coal, ethanol, and other biofuels. *Establishment of a Rail Energy Transp. Advisory Comm.*, EP 670 (STB served July 17, 2007). The purpose of this meeting is to continue discussions regarding issues such as rail performance, capacity constraints, infrastructure planning and development, and effective coordination among suppliers, carriers, and users of energy resources. Potential agenda items for this meeting include a performance measures review, industry segment updates by RETAC members, and a roundtable discussion.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be conducted in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee

Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2; Federal Advisory Committee Management regulations, 41 CFR pt. 102-3; RETAC's charter; and Board procedures. Further communications about this meeting may be announced through the Board's website at [www.stb.gov](http://www.stb.gov).

**Written Comments:** Members of the public may submit written comments to RETAC at any time. Comments should be addressed to RETAC, c/o Kristen Nunnally, Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001 or [Kristen.Nunnally@stb.gov](mailto:Kristen.Nunnally@stb.gov).

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 1321, 49 U.S.C. 11101; 49 U.S.C. 11121.

Decided: October 18, 2019.

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

**Aretha Laws-Byrum,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2019-23207 Filed 10-23-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## **OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**[Docket Number USTR-2019-0005]**

### **Procedures for Requests To Exclude Particular Products From the August 2019 Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation**

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In a notice published on August 20, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative announced that the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) would establish a process by which U.S. stakeholders may request an exclusion from additional duties of particular products classified within a tariff subheading covered by the August 2019 action. This notice announces that USTR will open an electronic portal for submission of exclusion requests on October 31, 2019 for products covered by Annex A of the August 2019 action, and sets out the specific procedures for submitting requests.

**DATES:** *October 31, 2019 at noon EDT:* The web portal for submitting exclusion requests—<https://exclusions.USTR.gov>—will open.

*January 31, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. EDT:* Last day for submitting exclusion requests.

Responses to individual exclusion requests are due 14 days after USTR

<sup>2</sup>Filing fees for OFAs and trail use requests can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25) and (27), respectively.