

been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(b) and 1105.8(c) (notice of environmental and historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to government agencies) have been met.

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 & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received,¹ this exemption will be effective on July 24, 2022, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues² must be filed by July 1, 2022. Formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) and interim trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by July 5, 2022.³ Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by July 14, 2022.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 808X), must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on CSXT's representative, Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

CSXT has filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the potential effects, if any, of

¹ Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer, 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)(2)(i).

² The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

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

the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) by July 1, 2022. The Draft EA will be available to interested persons on the Board's website, by writing to OEA, or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0294. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Comments on environmental or historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the Draft EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), CSXT shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by CSXT's filing of a notice of consummation by June 24, 2023, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Decided: June 16, 2022.

By the Board, Valerie O. Quinn, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2022-13437 Filed 6-23-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2010-0100]

Petition for Extension of Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on May 31, 2022, Brownsville & Rio Grande International Railway, LLC (BRG) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to extend a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 215 (Railroad Freight Car Safety Standards) and § 232.205, *Class I Brake Test—Initial Terminal Inspection*. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2010-0100.

Specifically, BRG seeks to retain relief that permits BRG to pick up trains received in interchange at the U.S./Mexico border from Kansas City Southern de Mexico Railway (KCSM)

via Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) at UP's Olmito Yard in Olmito, Texas (in lieu of BRG's interchange point with UP at milepost (MP) 4.48), and move them to perform the required FRA inspections (*see* Docket Number FRA-2007-28340). BRG's existing relief states that the inspection location is on BRG's South Lead on the Palo Alto Subdivision, between MPs 2.0 and 3.0. In this request, BRG seeks to modify the inspection location to between MPs 1.0 and 3.0.

In support of its petition, BRG states the extension would help expedite any delays caused by required port of entry inspections and other unforeseen delays. It would also provide capacity to process two inbound trains back-to-back, allowing for more efficient use of bridge windows. BRG further states that the change will support the ongoing extensive growth in the Rio Grande Valley.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Communications received by August 8, 2022 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See

also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2022–13493 Filed 6–23–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA–2022–0049]

Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program; Northeast Corridor Project Inventory

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Approach (Notice) to the Northeast Corridor Project Inventory and the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program for Northeast Corridor projects.

SUMMARY: FRA is publishing this Notice to describe its proposed approach to the development of the Northeast Corridor (NEC) project inventory (NEC Project Inventory), which is a required component of the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program (Partnership Program). FRA is required to publish an NEC Project Inventory not later than one year after the enactment of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The NEC Project Inventory must be updated at least every two years.

DATES: Written comments on this Notice must be received on or July 25, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number FRA–2022–0049 and be submitted at <https://www.regulations.gov>. See Section V for further information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, please contact Amishi Castelli, Northeast Corridor Program Manager, Office of Policy and Planning, at email: Amishi.Castelli@dot.gov or telephone: 202–845–4394, or Bryan Rodda, Lead Community Planner, Office of Policy and Planning, at email: Bryan.Rodda@dot.gov or telephone: 202–493–0443.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

I. Overview

- A. Background on Northeast Corridor Planning
- B. Authority

C. Definitions

II. Eligibility

- A. Applicant Eligibility
- B. Project Eligibility

III. NEC Project Inventory Development

IV. Program Administration

- A. NEC Project Inventory and Notice of Funding Opportunity Publication
- B. Project Selections
- C. Letters of Intent and Phased Funding Agreements

V. Comments

VI. Next Steps

I. Overview

A. Background on Northeast Corridor Planning

The NEC is the most heavily used passenger rail corridor in the United States. Pre-COVID–19, the NEC served over 800,000 daily passengers traveling on more than 2,000 daily commuter and intercity trains and supported 50–60 daily freight trains.

In 2017, FRA presented its vision for growth along the NEC with the NEC FUTURE Record of Decision. See www.fra.dot.gov/necfuture/tier1_eis/rod/. The Northeast Corridor Commission (NEC Commission), composed of 18 members, including representatives from each of the eight Northeast Corridor states, the District of Columbia, Amtrak, and the U.S. Department of Transportation, subsequently developed an implementation plan (CONNECT NEC 2035 or C35) to deliver the first 15-year phase of investment to realize the NEC FUTURE vision. The NEC Commission issued C35 in July 2021. C35 identified and provided a sequencing and delivery strategy for completing projects to eliminate the state of good repair backlog on—and modernize and make targeted improvements to—the NEC. See <http://nec-commission.com/connect-nec-2035/>. The NEC Commission is currently updating C35 to reflect the updated project information and better consider workforce and funding constraints.

B. Authority

The Partnership Program was reauthorized and revised in the BIL, Title II, §§ 22106 and 22307, Public Law 117–58 (2021); codified at 49 U.S.C. 24911. Under the Partnership Program, the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) is directed to develop and implement a program for issuing grants to applicants, on a competitive basis, to fund projects that reduce the state of good repair backlog, improve performance, or expand or establish new intercity passenger rail service, including privately operated intercity passenger rail service if an eligible applicant is involved. The Partnership

Program revisions in the BIL require the Secretary to, among other things, develop and publish an NEC Project Inventory to (1) create a predictable project pipeline that will assist Amtrak, States, and the public with long-term capital planning, and (2) use the NEC Project Inventory when selecting projects located on the NEC for Partnership Program funds. 49 U.S.C. 24911. FRA is delegated the authority under the BIL to establish and administer the Partnership Program. 49 CFR 1.89(a).

FRA encourages NEC stakeholders to submit comments to this Notice consistent with the directions below. FRA will consider these comments in developing the NEC Project Inventory and the associated Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Partnership Program. As described below, FRA plans to publish the NEC Project Inventory, consistent with the BIL, in November 2022, with the NOFO for projects on the NEC following closely after.

C. Definitions¹

Construction Stage: the Lifecycle Stage of a project following the Final Design Lifecycle Stage and during which the project is completely built and placed into operational use. This stage may include physical construction, procurement of vehicles and equipment, project administration, testing of equipment as appropriate, systems integration testing, workforce training, system certification, procurement of insurance, pre-revenue service, and start-up testing.

Defined Capital Renewal Projects: a geographically integrated set of activities to repair, replace, or modernize basic infrastructure assets along a corridor section that is executed in accordance with a defined scope, schedule, and budget. Basic infrastructure assets include rails, ties, ballast, communication systems, electric traction power systems, and undergrade bridges.

Final Design Stage: the Lifecycle Stage of a project following the Project Development Lifecycle Stage during which the project design is advanced to be ready for construction. This stage includes development of final engineering plans and specifications necessary for construction of the project; securing agreements (including

¹ The definitions used in this Notice are consistent with FRA's Draft Guidance on Development and Implementation of Railroad Capital Projects, currently available for public comment at <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket number FRA–2022–0035). To the extent necessary, FRA will update definitions in the NOFO.