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Director of Data Processing and Accounts

General Counsel

Vermont Northern Railroad Company
Cessation of employer status

This is in response to your employer status inquiry contained in a Form G-215 of January 16, 1978. In General Counsel's opinion L-77-179, I held the Vermont Northern Railroad Company to be an employer under the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act. In a letter from the Vermont Northern Railroad Company dated January 9, 1978, the Board was informed that the Company ceased operations effective December 31, 1977, and that its union and manual employees were transferred to a new railroad, the Lamotte Valley Railroad Company. In addition, the administrative employees of the Vermont Northern were transferred to the Wabash Valley Railroad in Decatur, Illinois.

The Vermont Northern is in the process of winding down operations, and all employees involved in closing down the books of the Vermont Northern are on the payroll of the Wabash Valley Railroad Company.

In light of the above, I am of the opinion that as of January 1, 1978, the Vermont Northern Railroad Company ceased to be an employer under the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

An appropriate Form G-341 giving effect to the foregoing conclusion is attached.

Dale G. Zimmerman

Attachment

TWS:cjg