

examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. EDT (or EST), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Dated: February 17, 2004.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator,  
**Joel C. Richard**,  
 Secretary, Maritime Administrator.  
 [FR Doc. 04-3782 Filed 2-20-04; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34395]

#### City of Peoria, IL, d/b/a Peoria, Peoria Heights & Western Railroad—Construction of Connecting Track Exemption—in Peoria County, IL

The City of Peoria, IL, d/b/a Peoria, Peoria Heights & Western Railroad (PPHW), has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.36 to construct approximately 1,800 feet of track in Peoria, Peoria County, IL, over land that it owns or over which it has an easement for railroad purposes. The track to be constructed will connect a 1.9-mile segment of track that the City of Peoria (the City) purchased from Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) with an 8.29-mile segment of track known as the Keller Branch that the City acquired from the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company (Rock Island).

The former UP segment connects at its west end with a UP main line that extends in a generally north-south direction between Nelson, IL, and St. Louis, MO. It was acquired by the City in 2001 and there are no active shippers currently located on that segment.

The former Rock Island segment was acquired by the City in 1984 from the Rock Island Trustee. It connects at its east end with a rail line of the Peoria & Pekin Union Railway Company (P&PU). P&PU initially operated the segment pursuant to a lease from the City. Thereafter, the Village of Peoria Heights, IL, acquired a 25-percent interest in the segment, which was referred to under the doing-business designation of PPHW. In 1998, Pioneer Industrial Railway Co., the current operator, began operations over the segment pursuant to an assignment of P&PU's lease from the City (consented to by the Village of Peoria Heights). There are three active shippers located on the segment, two of which are located near its northwestern

end and one of which is located near its southeastern end.

After the proposed construction of connecting trackage is completed, the two shippers located near the northwestern end of the segment will be served from the west by DOT Rail Service, Inc., or its designee under an operating agreement with the City<sup>1</sup> and the shipper located near the southeastern end of the segment will be served from the southeast by the same or a different rail operator. Service over the approximately 7.5 miles of the segment that is no longer required to serve shippers will be discontinued and the right-of-way used for a recreational trail.<sup>2</sup> The trail would be supervised by the Peoria Park District, and would connect the Pimetoui Trail at the Peoria riverfront with the Rock Island Trail near Alta, IL.

Construction is proposed to begin no earlier than 90 days after the filing of this notice of exemption.

PPHW has certified that it has complied with the Board's environmental rules at 49 CFR Part 1105, and with the pre-filing notice requirements of 49 CFR 1150.36(c)(1).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) has approved PPHW's request to submit a Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment in lieu of the environmental and historic reports required under 49 CFR 1105.7 and 1105.8. SEA has also granted a waiver of the 6-month pre-filing notice generally required for construction projects under 49 CFR 1105.10(a)(1). Under 49 CFR 1150.36(c)(3), SEA will generally issue an environmental assessment (EA) 15 days after the **Federal Register** notice, here by March 9, 2004. However, under 49 CFR 1150.36(c)(10), a stay of the effective date may be issued if an informed decision on environmental issues cannot be made prior to March 9, 2004. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.] Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 30 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

On completion of the environmental review, the Board will issue a decision

<sup>1</sup> No part of the line that would continue to be operated would be located in the Village of Peoria Heights.

<sup>2</sup> The City recognizes that Board authority or an exemption must be obtained for discontinuance of rail service over the line.

addressing those matters and making the exemption effective at that time, if appropriate, subject to any necessary conditions, thereby allowing construction to begin.

This exemption will be effective on May 3, 2004, unless stayed. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues must be filed by March 4, 2004.<sup>3</sup> Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by March 15, 2004, with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34395, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K St., NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Thomas F. McFarland, 208 South LaSalle St., Suite 1890, Chicago, IL 60604-1112.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Dated: February 13, 2004.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
 Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Vernon A. Williams**,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-3747 Filed 2-20-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of Thrift Supervision

#### Dollar Savings Bank, Newark, New Jersey; Notice of Appointment of Receiver

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the authority contained in section 5(d)(2) of the Home Owners' Loan Act, the Office of Thrift Supervision has duly appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as receiver for Dollar Savings Bank, Newark, New Jersey (OTS No. 06755), on February 13, 2004.

Dated: February 18, 2004.

<sup>3</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by SEA in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service 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.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.  
**Nadine Y. Washington,**  
*Corporate Secretary.*  
[FR Doc. 04-3832 Filed 2-20-04; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 6720-01-M**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans will be held from Monday, March 22, 2004, through Wednesday, March 24, 2004, in the McPherson Square Room of the Hamilton Crowne Plaza, 14th & K Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20005. On March 22, the session will convene at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. On March 23-24, the sessions will convene at 8

a.m. and end at 4 p.m. on March 23 and at 12 Noon on March 24. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with an on-going assessment of the effectiveness of the policies, organizational structures, and services of the Department in assisting homeless veterans. The Committee shall assemble and review information relating to the needs of homeless veterans and provide on-going advice on the most appropriate means of providing assistance to homeless veterans. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

On March 22, the Committee will receive reports and information requested by the Committee from its 2003 Annual Report, from governmental and outside entities. On March 23, the Committee will continue to receive reports and begin preparation of its upcoming annual report and recommendations to the Secretary. On

March 24, the Committee will continue preparation of its report.

Those wishing to attend the meeting should contact Mr. Pete Dougherty, Department of Veterans Affairs, at (202) 273-5764. No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, the Committee will accept written comments from interested parties on issues affecting homeless veterans. Such comments should be referred to the Committee at the following address: Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, Homeless Veterans Programs Office (075D), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: February 11, 2004.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**E. Philip Riggin,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-3855 Filed 2-20-04; 8:45 am]

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