

According to Ellis, Ellis and BRRRA have reached an agreement whereby Ellis will lease, operate, and maintain the trackage, right-of-way, and real property interests of the Line.

Ellis certifies that the projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction will not exceed \$5 million and will not result in its becoming a Class I or Class II rail carrier. Ellis states that the proposed transaction does not include any provision that may limit Ellis' ability to interchange with a third-party carrier.

The proposed transaction may be consummated on or after June 7, 2017, the effective date of the exemption.

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 effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than May 31, 2017 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36119, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on John E. Taylor, Taylor Law Firm, LLC, 4820 East 57th St., Suite B, Sioux Falls, SD 57108.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at "WWW.STB.GOV."

Decided: May 19, 2017.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Jeffrey Herzig,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2017-10652 Filed 5-23-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2017-0035]

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on April 26, 2016, Grenada Railroad, LLC (GRYR), the operator of trackage owned by North Central Mississippi Regional Railroad Authority (NCMRRRA) requested that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) grant

temporary relief from the requirements of 49 CFR 234.247, *Purpose of inspections and tests; removal from service of relay or device failing to meet test requirements*, to allow GRYR to operate over non-functioning highway-rail grade crossings (HRGC) without making the inspections and tests required in 49 CFR 234.249 through 234.271. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2017-0035.

The reason for relief from the requirements is that prior to the purchase of the railroad by NCMRRRA, the previous owner removed major components from the HRGC warning systems, bungalows, signals, and gates. As part of GRYR's commitment to provide rail services to those that require it, GRYR must access areas of the railroad previously deemed out of service. GRYR proposes to operate over affected HRGCs by the following alternative method:

- Making all movements over HRGC in daylight hours.
- Working with local authorities to obtain permission to close the roadway at a HRGC requiring occupation by a train.
- Stationing an employee at each crossing to provide warning to approaching highway traffic and communicate with motorists as needed.

GRYR requests to use the proposed method of alternative protection on the GRYR Subdivision, between milepost (MP) 629 near Duck Hill, MS, and MP 686 south of Durant, MS, for a period not to extend beyond December 31, 2017. During this time period, GRYR plans to acquire and install the equipment necessary to bring the HRGC warning systems into compliance.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and in person at the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment, 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 by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Fax:** 202-493-2251.
- **Mail:** Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- **Hand Delivery:** 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by July 10, 2017 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.). In accordance with 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](http://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/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

**Robert C. Lauby,**  
Associate Administrator for Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-10644 Filed 5-23-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2016-0108]

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides public notice that on April 26, 2017, the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to modify an existing waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations in 49 CFR part 236. FRA assigned the petition docket number FRA-2016-0108.

UP seeks a modification to its existing waiver from compliance with cab signal

acquire a 7.6-mile line of railroad from E & ER between Brandon, S.D., and Manley, Minn.

system requirements found in 49 CFR 236.566, *Locomotive of each train operating in train stop, train control, or cab signal territory; equipped.* Specifically, UP requests that FRA add

more lines to the waiver. The lines listed in this request are those where UP will install and operate Positive Train Control (PTC) in lieu of automatic cab signal (ACS), Automatic Train Control

(ATC), or Automatic Train Stop (ATS) to support its plan for PTC implementation. The list of the lines is in the table below:

Subdivision	Cab signal system	From MP	From station	To MP	To station
Blair .....	ATC	326.2	East Missouri Valley, IA .....	329.5	Missouri Valley, IA.
Boone .....	ATC	202.2	Boone, IA .....	326.2	East Missouri Valley, IA.
Clinton .....	ATC	2.1	Clinton, IA .....	202.2	Boone, IA.
Columbus .....	ACS	39.2	Fremont, NE .....	144.5	East Grand Island, NE.
Evanston .....	ACS	817.3	Green River, WY .....	977.5	Strawberry, UT.
Geneva .....	ATC	0.8	Halsted, IL .....	138.9	Clinton, IA.
Harvard .....	ATS	0.9	Erie, IL .....	63.0	Harvard, IL.
Hiawatha .....	ACS	43.1	Hiawatha, KS .....	143.0	Upland, KS.
Joliet .....	ACS	72.8	Dwight, IL .....	92.5	Pontiac, IL.
Kansas .....	ACS	72.9	Menoken, KS .....	143.0	Upland, KS.
Kearney .....	ACS	144.5	East Grand Island, NE .....	282.0	Platte River, NE.
Kenosha .....	ACS <sup>1</sup>	30.2	Lake Bluff, IL .....	52.8	Hold Signal 53 (Kenosha), WI.
Kenosha .....	ATS	2.7	CY (Clybourn), IL .....	52.8	Hold Signal 53 (Kenosha), WI.
Laramie .....	ACS	510.8	Cheyenne, WY .....	682.8	Rawlins, WY.
Laramie .....	ACS	519.1	Borie, WY .....	C519.7	West Spear, WY.
Marysville .....	ACS	143.0	Upland, KS .....	146.7	McLaughlin, KS.
Marysville .....	ACS	149.0	West Marysville, KS .....	288.4	Gibbon, NE.
North Platte Terminal .....	ACS	282.0	Platte River, NE .....	283.4	Bryan Ave., NE.
North Platte Terminal .....	ACS	291.0	Birdwood, NE .....	291.9	Hinman, NE.
Omaha .....	ATC	329.1	Missouri Valley, IA .....	348.5	North Council Bluffs, IA.
Omaha .....	ACS	7.5	Omaha 57th Street, NE .....	39.2	Fremont, NE.
Rawlins .....	ACS	682.8	Rawlins, WY .....	815.1	Green River, WY.
Sidney .....	ACS	291.9	Hinman, NE .....	509.3	Cheyenne, WY.
South Morrill .....	ACS	300.4	O'Fallons, NE .....	157.0	Pelton, NE.

In its original petition, UP noted its Positive Train Control Implementation Plan identifies its ultimate goal of supplanting cab signals with PTC technology. Justification for relief was provided in that petition, as well as in supplements to that petition added to the waiver docket. UP also indicated its intent to petition for relief on the balance of its cab signal territories, all of which are slated for the implementation of PTC.

The relief requested would only apply within the UP subdivisions listed on which a PTC system is installed and operative; the PTC system is successfully initialized; and a locomotive engineer trained and qualified in the operation of PTC is present for the operation of the train with ACS, ATC, or ATS cut out. The PTC system to be utilized is UP's implementation of the Interoperable Electronic Train Management System.

If the PTC system fails and/or is cut-out en route as a result of same, the train crew will cut-in the ACS, ATC, or ATS onboard system, perform a departure test, and if successful, continue the trip under ACS, ATC, or ATS operation. If the ACS, ATC, or ATS onboard system cut-in and/or departure tests are not completed successfully, the train will continue to operate under the provisions of 49 CFR 236.567,

*Restrictions imposed when device fails and/or is cut out en route.*

UP notes that the ACS, ATC, or ATS and PTC systems are not integrated on the locomotive and its concurrent use would be potentially confusing and distracting to the train crew due to differences in the content of its displays, audible and visual alerts provided, and required acknowledgement protocols.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and in person at the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment, 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 by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by June 23, 2017 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.). In accordance with 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](http://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/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov).

**Robert C. Lauby,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-10643 Filed 5-23-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2017-0030]

#### Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that on April 20, 2017, Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2017-0030.

*Applicant:* Norfolk Southern Corporation, Mr. B.L. Sykes, Chief Engineer C&S Engineering, 1200 Peachtree Street SE., Atlanta, GA 30309.

NS seeks to discontinue the traffic control system (TCS) on the Buffalo Line between Lock Haven, PA, milepost (MP) B-end, right side/corner (BR) 194.3 and control point (CP) North Driftwood, MP BR 139.8. This includes the CPs at North Driftwood, Driftwood, South Driftwood, North Keating, Keating, South Keating, North Drury, Drury, North Baker, and South Baker and 10 automatic signals.

NS will place a new operative approach signal at BR 192.8 in approach to CP Lock Haven. All slide fences located at BR 139.8, 143.5, 153.3, 173.8, 177.0, 179.6, and 188.8 will be maintained and provide protection through the use of dual-tone multi-frequency radio operation. The main track between BR 134.5 and CP Lock Haven will be converted to NS Rule 171 operation. The signaled sidings within the application limits at Baker, Drury, Keating, and Driftwood will be made non-controlled, other than main track. The reason for the discontinuance is that operations no longer require a TCS.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov/](http://www.regulations.gov/) and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200

New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 parties desire 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 by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <https://www.regulations.gov/>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by July 10, 2017 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](http://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/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov).

**Robert C. Lauby,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-10645 Filed 5-23-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

#### Notice of Funding Opportunity for Small Shipyard Grant Program; Application Deadline

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of funding opportunity.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Small Shipyard Grant Program, there is currently \$9,800,000 available for grants for capital and related improvements to qualified shipyard facilities that will be effective in fostering efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration. This notice announces the intention of the Maritime Administration to provide grants to small shipyards. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 20.814. Potential applicants are advised that it is expected, based on past experience, that the number of applications will far exceed the funds available and that only a small percentage of applications will be funded. It is anticipated that about 5-12 applications will be selected for funding with an average grant amount of about \$1 million.

**DATES:** The period for submitting grant applications commenced with the enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, on May 5, 2017. Applications must be received by the Maritime Administration by 5 p.m. EDT on July 5, 2017. Applications received later than this time will not be considered. The Maritime Administration intends to award grants no later than September 5, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Grant Applications should be sent to the Associate Administrator for Business and Finance Development, Room W21-318, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Only applicants who comply with all submission requirements described in this Notice will be eligible for award.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information concerning this notice, please contact David M. Heller, Director, Office of Shipyards and Marine Engineering, Maritime Administration, Room W21-318, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366-5737; or fax: (202) 366-6988.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Grants under the Maritime Administration's Small Shipyard Grant Program may not be used to construct buildings or other physical facilities or to acquire land unless such use is specifically approved