

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 to stay must be filed no later than August 23, 2019.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36288, 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 Applicants' representative, Karl Morell, Karl Morell and Associates, 440 1st Street NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20001.

According to Applicants, this action is excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b)(1).

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

Decided: August 12, 2019.

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

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2019-17548 Filed 8-14-19; 8:45 am]

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36287]

Cleveland & Cuyahoga Railway, LLC— Change in Operator Exemption Containing Interchange Commitment— Cleveland Commercial Railroad Company, LLC

Cleveland & Cuyahoga Railway, LLC (CCR), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from Cleveland Commercial Railroad Company, LLC (Cleveland Commercial) two lease agreements and to operate approximately 35.7 miles of rail line as follows: (1) A 10.4-mile rail line located in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, between milepost 15.5 at Falls Junction in Glenwillow, and milepost 5.1 in Cleveland (the W&LE Line); and (2) a 25.3-mile rail line located in Cuyahoga and Portage Counties, Ohio, between milepost RH 2.2+/- in Cleveland, and milepost RH 27.5+/- in Aurora (the NS Line) (collectively, the Lines).

The verified notice states that Cleveland Commercial entered into an agreement with the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company in 2004 to lease and operate the W&LE Line, see *Cleveland Commercial R.R.—Change in Operators Exemption—Wheeling & Lake Erie Ry.*, FD 34521 (STB served Aug. 6,

2004), and an agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company in 2009 to lease and operate the NS Line, see *Cleveland Commercial R.R.—Lease & Operation Exemption—Norfolk Southern Ry.*, FD 35251 (STB served May 29, 2009).

According to CCR, Cleveland Commercial and CCR now have entered into an agreement under which Cleveland Commercial will assign both leases to CCR. As a result, CCR will replace Cleveland Commercial as the lessee and operator of the Lines.

This transaction is related to a concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in *OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—Cleveland & Cuyahoga Railway*, Docket No. FD 36288, in which OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc., and HGS Railway Holdings, Inc., both noncarriers, seek Board approval to continue in control of CCR under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2) upon CCR's becoming a Class III rail carrier.¹

CCR certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of the transaction will not result in the creation of a Class II or Class I carrier and will not exceed \$5 million. As required under 49 CFR 1150.33(h)(1), CCR has disclosed in its verified notice that the lease agreement governing the NS Line contains an interchange commitment in the form of lease credits.² CCR has provided additional information regarding the interchange commitment as required by 49 CFR 1150.33(h).

Under 49 CFR 1150.32(b), a change in operators requires that notice be given to shippers. In its July 31, 2019 supplement, CCR states that it has provided notice of the proposed transaction to all active shippers on the Lines in the last two years.

The earliest this transaction may be consummated is August 30, 2019 (30 days after the verified notice was filed).³ If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions to revoke the

¹ The verified notices in Docket Nos. FD 36287 and FD 36288 were initially submitted on April 1, 2019. On April 15, 2019, CCR requested that the Board hold both dockets in abeyance until it could complete negotiations regarding the NS Line, and the request was granted. On July 16, 2019, CCR notified the Board that it had completed its negotiations and requested that the Board process the verified notices in both dockets. On July 31, 2019, CCR filed a supplement clarifying that Docket No. FD 36287 should be a change in operator exemption and providing the most recent version of the lease agreement.

² A copy of the lease agreement with the interchange commitment was submitted under seal. See 49 CFR 1150.33(h)(1).

³ The date of CCR's supplement (July 31, 2019) will be considered the filing date for the purposes of calculating the effective date of the exemption.

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 to stay must be filed no later than August 23, 2019 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36287, 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 CCR's representative, Karl Morell, Karl Morell and Associates, 440 1st Street NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20001.

According to CCR, this action is excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b)(1).

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

Decided: August 12, 2019.

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

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36337]

Watco Holdings, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—Savannah & Old Fort Railroad, L.L.C.

Watco Holdings, Inc. (Watco), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption pursuant to 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2) to continue in control of Savannah & Old Fort Railroad, L.L.C. (SOFR), upon SOFR's becoming a Class III carrier. Watco owns, indirectly, 100% of the issued and outstanding stock of SOFR.

This transaction is related to a concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in *Savannah & Old Fort Railroad—Change in Operator Exemption—Golden Isles Terminal Railroad*, Docket No. 36336, in which SOFR seeks an exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from CSX Transportation, Inc., by assignment of lease, and to operate, approximately 6.45 miles of rail line between milepost ASO 493.3 at or near Staley Avenue and milepost ASO 499.75 at the end of the line, in Savannah, Ga. (the Line). Upon consummation of the transaction in Finance Docket No. 36336, SOFR would become a Class III carrier.

The earliest this transaction may be consummated is August 29, 2019, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

Watco states that it currently controls, indirectly, 38 Class III rail carriers¹ and one Class II rail carrier, collectively operating in 27 states.² For a complete list of these rail carriers and the states in which they operate, see Watco's notice of exemption filed on July 30, 2019.³ The notice is available at www.stb.gov.

Watco represents that: (1) The rail line to be operated by SOFR does not connect with any lines of any other Watco-controlled rail carriers; (2) the proposed continuance in control of SOFR is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would connect the Line with the rail lines of any other railroad in the Watco corporate family; and (3) the transaction does not involve a Class I rail carrier. The proposed transaction is, therefore, exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. See 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Because the transaction involves control of one Class II and one or more Class III rail carriers, the transaction is subject to the labor protection requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11326(b) and *Wisconsin Central, Ltd.—Acquisition Exemption—Lines of Union Pacific Railroad*, 2 S.T.B. 218 (1997).

If the 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. Stay petitions must be filed no later than August 22, 2019 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36337, 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 Watco's

¹ In its verified notice, Watco states that it currently controls 39 Class III railroads, but this appears to be a misstatement, as the number of Class III carriers listed elsewhere in the notice adds to 38.

² Although Watco's verified notice indicates that the carriers it controls operate in 25 states, the notice lists 27 different states.

³ The list of carriers on pages 4-5 of the verified notice does not include Ithaca Central Railroad, LLC, though that carrier is listed as one of the applicants on page 9.

representative, Karl Morell, Karl Morell & Associates, 440 1st Street NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20001.

According to Watco, this action is excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b)(1).

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

Decided: August 12, 2019.

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

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2019-0094]

Deepwater Port License Application: Bluewater LLC; Extension of Scoping Period

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: By **Federal Register** notice of Wednesday, July 3, 2019, titled *Deepwater Port License Application: Bluewater Texas Terminal LLC (Bluewater)*, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), in coordination with the Maritime Administration (MARAD), announced the intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) as part of the environmental review of the Bluewater Texas Terminal LLC (Bluewater) deepwater port license application. Publication of that notice began a 30-day scoping process, announced the date and location of a public scoping meeting as well as requested public participation to assist in the identification and determination of the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIS. This extension is due to delays in getting the application properly posted to the Federal docket. This **Federal Register** Notice announces the date of the extended scoping period.

DATES: Comments or related material on the Bluewater deepwater port license application must be received by August 30, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The public docket for the Bluewater deepwater port license application is maintained by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Management Facility, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200

New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. The license application is available for viewing at the *Regulations.gov* website: <http://www.regulations.gov> under docket number MARAD-2019-0094.

We encourage you to submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. If you submit your comments electronically, it is not necessary to also submit a hard copy. If you cannot submit material using <http://www.regulations.gov>, please contact either Mr. Roddy Bachman, USCG or Yvette Fields, MARAD, as listed in the following **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document, which also provides alternate instructions for submitting written comments. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted. Anonymous comments will be accepted. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov> and will include any personal information you have provided. The Federal Docket Management Facility's telephone number is 202-366-9317 or 202-366-9826, the fax number is 202-493-2251. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Roddy Bachman, U.S. Coast Guard, telephone: 202-372-1451, email: Roddy.Bachman@uscg.mil or Ms. Yvette Fields, Maritime Administration, telephone: 202-366-0926, email: Yvette.Fields@dot.gov. For questions regarding viewing the Docket, call Docket Operations, telephone: 202-366-9317 or 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

We request public comment on this proposal. The comments may relate to, but are not limited to, the environmental impact of the proposed action. All comments will be accepted. You may submit comments directly to the Federal Docket Management Facility during the public comment period (see **DATES**). We will consider all comments and material received during the extended scoping period.

The license application, comments and associated documentation, as well as the draft and final EISs (when published), are available for viewing at the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) website: <http://www.regulations.gov> under docket number MARAD-2019-0094.

Public comment submissions should include:

- Docket number MARAD-2019-0094.