

name of the relevant application in the "Type comment" field. For further information on using the <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site, please select "How to use Regulations.gov" on the bottom of any page.

### 3. Public Hearing

#### a. Notice of Public Hearing

The Special 301 Subcommittee will hold a hearing at the offices of USTR, 1724 F Street NW., Washington, DC 20508 for interested parties, including representatives of foreign governments, on February 24, 2014. The hearing will be open to the public. Please consult <http://www.ustr.gov> to confirm the date and location of the hearing, and to obtain copies of the hearing schedule and transcript of the event.

#### b. Submission of Notice of Intent To Testify and Hearing Statements

Prepared oral testimony before the Special 301 Subcommittee must be delivered in person, in English, and will be limited to five minutes. Subcommittee member agencies may ask questions following the prepared statement.

Interested parties, except foreign governments, wishing to testify at the hearing must submit a "Notice of Intent to Testify" and "Hearing Statement" to <http://www.regulations.gov> (following the procedures set forth in "Filing Instructions" above). The filing deadline is Friday, February 7, 2014. The Notice of Intent to Testify must include the name of the witness, name of the organization (if applicable), address, telephone number, fax number, and email address. A Hearing Statement must accompany the Notice of Intent to Testify. There is no requirement regarding the length of the Hearing Statement; however, the content of the testimony must be relevant to the Special 301 review.

All interested foreign governments that wish to testify at the hearing must submit a "Notice of Intent to Testify" to <http://www.regulations.gov> (following the procedures set forth in "Filing Instructions" above). The Notice of Intent to Testify must be filed by Friday, February 14, 2014, and include the name of the witness, name of the organization (if applicable), address, telephone number, fax number, and email address. Although not mandatory, government witnesses may submit a Hearing Statement when filing the Notice of Intent to Testify.

### 4. Business Confidential Information

A person requesting that information contained in a comment submitted by that person be treated as confidential

business information must certify that such information is business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the submitter. The filenames of both documents should reflect their status—"BCI" for the business confidential version and "PUBLIC" for the public version. In the document, confidential business information must be clearly designated as such, the submission must be marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" at the top and bottom of the cover page and each succeeding page, and the submission should indicate, via brackets, the specific information that is confidential. Additionally, the submitter should write "Business Confidential" in the "Type Comment" field. Anyone submitting a comment containing business confidential information must also submit, as a separate submission, a non-business confidential version of the submission, indicating where the business confidential information has been redacted. The non-business confidential version will be placed in the docket at <http://www.regulations.gov> and be available for public inspection.

### 5. Inspection of Comments

USTR will maintain a publicly accessible docket for the 2014 Special 301 Review. This public file will include all non-business confidential comments, notices of intent to testify, and hearing statements that USTR receives from the public, including foreign governments, in conjunction with the 2014 Special 301 Review. Comments will be placed in the docket upon receipt and be open to public inspection pursuant to 15 CFR 2006.13. Comments containing confidential business information are exempt from public inspection in accordance with 15 CFR 2006.15. However, USTR will require submission of non-business confidential versions of such documents, as described above, and will post non-business confidential versions to the public docket. Comments may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov> by entering docket number USTR-2013-0040 in the search field on the home page.

**Susan F. Wilson,**

*Director for Intellectual Property and Innovation.*

[FR Doc. 2013-31487 Filed 1-2-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3290-F4-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2013 0153]

### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel NORTHWIND; Invitation for Public Comments

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before February 3, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2013-0153. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Linda Williams, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0903, Email [Linda.Williams@dot.gov](mailto:Linda.Williams@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel NORTHWIND is: *Intended Commercial Use Of Vessel:* "Sailing charters with captain and crew in the San Juan islands of Washington state."

*Geographic Region:* "Washington" The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2013-0153 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this

action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

#### Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.  
Dated: December 17, 2013.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**  
Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2013–30369 Filed 1–2–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–81–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 303 (Sub-No. 43X)]

#### Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Abandonment Exemption—in Barron County, WI

On December 16, 2013, Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL)<sup>1</sup> filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a 0.80-mile line of railroad between mileposts 55.2 and 56.0 in Rice Lake, Barron County, Wis. (the Line).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> WCL is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Canadian National Railway Company.

<sup>2</sup> WCL states that the Line is a stub-ended line that begins at a connection with its mainline at milepost 55.2 and ends at milepost 56.0. The track north of milepost 56.0 was approved for abandonment in *Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Abandonment Exemption—in Douglas, Washburn, & Barron Counties, Wis.*, AB 303 (Sub-No. 12X) (ICC served Apr. 20, 1993). According to WCL, the abandoned line in that proceeding is now a trail, except for a small portion immediately north of milepost 56.0, on which abandonment was consummated, but the track remains in place to allow for headroom for switching purposes.

The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 54868.

WCL states that, based on information in its possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in WCL's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, In Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by April 4, 2014.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,600 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the Line, the Line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than January 23, 2014. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$250 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 303 (Sub-No. 43X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001; and (2) Audrey L. Brodrick, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 920, Chicago, IL 60606. Replies to the petition are due on or before January 23, 2014.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at (202) 245–0238 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245–0305. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation.

Other interested persons may contact OEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA generally will be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “[WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).”

Decided: December 30, 2013.

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

**Derrick A. Gardner,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2013–31465 Filed 1–2–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 351X)]

#### Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Botetourt County, VA

On December 16, 2013, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon approximately 0.71 miles of rail line, consisting of part of the Cloverdale Branch and extending from milepost C 8.19 to milepost C 8.90 in Troutville, Botetourt County, Va. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 24175. There is one station on the line that will remain open to serve the remainder of the Cloverdale Branch.<sup>1</sup>

NSR states that, based on information in its possession, the line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in NSR's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding

<sup>1</sup> NSR states that there is one shipper on the line, Roanoke Cement Company LLC (Roanoke). According to NSR, Roanoke has requested abandonment to allow expansion of its facilities, and Roanoke will continue to be served by NSR post-abandonment. NSR seeks expedited consideration in this proceeding to allow Roanoke to move forward with its plans as soon as possible. This request will be addressed in the final decision.