

Dated: August 31, 2016.

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Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2016–21980 Filed 9–12–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–08–P

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 385X); Docket No. AB 1246X]

### Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Kalamazoo, Mich.; and Grand Elk Railroad, L.L.C.—Discontinuance Exemption—in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) and Grand Elk Railroad, L.L.C. (GDLK) (collectively, applicants), have jointly filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152, subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* for NSR to abandon, and for GDLK to discontinue service over, an approximately 0.1-mile rail line, between mileposts IJ 44.6 and IJ 44.7, in Kalamazoo, Mich. (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 49007 and 49001.

*Applicants have certified that:* (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the Line that would have to be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(c) (environmental report), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to these exemptions, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment or discontinuance shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, these exemptions will be effective on

October 13, 2016, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>2</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by September 23, 2016. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by October 3, 2016, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: William A. Mullins, Baker & Miller PLLC, 2401 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20037.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemptions are void ab initio.

Applicants have filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the effects, if any, of the abandonment and discontinuance on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by September 16, 2016. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to OEA (Room 1100, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423–0001) or by calling OEA at (202) 245–0305. 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 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), NSR shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by NSR's filing of a notice of consummation by September 13, 2017, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

<sup>1</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. 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.

<sup>2</sup> Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,600. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

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

Decided: September 8, 2016.

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

**Jeffrey Herzig,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016–21986 Filed 9–12–16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Notice of Release From Federal Grant Assurance Obligations at Tucson International Airport, Tucson, Pima County, Arizona

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation  
Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of request to release  
airport land.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) proposes to rule and invites public comment on the application for a release of approximately 3 acres of airport property at Tucson International Airport, Tucson, Pima County, Arizona, from all conditions contained in the Grant Assurances since the parcel of land is not needed for airport purposes. The property will be sold for its fair market value and the proceeds used for airport purposes. The redevelopment of the land for roadway enhancements to property owned by the U. S. Air Force represents a compatible land use that will not interfere with the airport or its operation, thereby protecting the interests of civil aviation.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before October 13, 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Comments on the request may be mailed to the FAA at the following address: Tony Garcia, Airports Compliance Program Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Airports Division, **Federal Register** Comment, 15000 Aviation Blvd., Lawndale, CA 90261. In addition, one copy of the comment submitted to the FAA must be mailed to Mr. Eric Roudebush, Director of Environmental Services, Tucson Airport Authority, 7005 South Plumer Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 85756.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (AIR 21), Public Law 106–181 (Apr. 5, 2000; 114 Stat. 61), this notice must be published in the **Federal Register** 30 days before the