

addresses the potential effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) by December 31, 2020. The Draft EA will be available to interested persons on the Board's website, by writing to OEA, or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the Draft EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or interim 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), the City 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 the City's filing of a notice of consummation by December 28, 2021, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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

Decided: December 21, 2020.

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

Tammy Lowery,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2020-28575 Filed 12-23-20; 8:45 am]

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 1267 (Sub-No. 1X)]

Cassatt Management, LLC d/b/a Bay Coast Railroad—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Norfolk, Va.

Cassatt Management, LLC d/b/a Bay Coast Railroad (BCR), has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* to discontinue service over a rail line comprised of segments (a) between milepost 102.1 and milepost 100.7 (Segment A) and (b) between milepost 100.7 and milepost 100.3 (Segment B), both in Norfolk, Va. (the Line).¹ The

¹ The verified notice states that Segment A is owned by the Canonie Atlantic Co. (CAC) and Segment B is owned by Norfolk Southern Railway Company. CAC concurrently is seeking Board authority to abandon Segment A. See *Canonie Atl. Co.—Aban. Exemption—in Norfolk, Va.*, Docket No. AB 1266 (Sub-No. 1X). Here, the verified notice states that CAC is acting on behalf of BCR in filing the discontinuance request. See also *Cassatt*

Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 23504.

BCR has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line in over two years; (2) there has been no overhead traffic over the Line in over two years; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or 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 or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication) and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service 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)² to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will be effective on January 27, 2021, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA to subsidize continued rail service under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)³ must be filed by January 7, 2021.⁴ Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by January 19, 2021.

A copy of any petition filed with Board should be sent to BCR's representative, Eric M. Hocky, Clark Hill, PLC, Two Commerce Square, 2001 Market St., Suite 2620, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Management LLC—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—Hallwood to Cape Charles, Va., Docket No. AB 1267X.

² Persons interested in submitting an OFA to subsidize continued rail service must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer, indicating the intent to file an OFA for subsidy and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. See 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)(i).

³ The filing fee for OFAs can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

⁴ Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, interim trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Because there will be an environmental review during abandonment, this discontinuance does not require environmental review.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

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

Decided: December 21, 2020.

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

Tammy Lowery,
Clearance Clerk.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 1266 (Sub-No. 1X)]

Canonie Atlantic Co.—Abandonment Exemption—in Norfolk, Va.

On December 8, 2020, Canonie Atlantic Co. (CAC), a Class III rail carrier, 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 an approximately 1.4-mile rail line in Norfolk, Va., between milepost 100.7 at North Junction and milepost 102.1 at St. Julian (the Line). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 23504.

CAC states it seeks to abandon the Line because it intends to sell the Line to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) for public use—specifically, commuter rail transportation. (Pet. 1.) CAC states that no freight traffic has moved over the Line in over two years and that the only recent use of the Line has been to support intercity passenger service by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). (*Id.* at 1, 4.)¹

In addition to an exemption from 49 U.S.C. 10903, CAC also seeks an exemption from the offer of financial assistance procedures of 49 U.S.C. 10904. In support, CAC argues that there is no overriding public need for freight rail service on the Line and that the right-of-way is needed for a valid public purpose, *i.e.*, DRPT's plans to utilize the Line to facilitate Amtrak passenger rail service. (Pet. 6.) This request will be addressed in the final decision.

CAC states that, based on the information in its possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in

¹ In a related docket, a verified notice of exemption has been filed for BCR to discontinue its operations over the Line, as well as over an adjacent line owned by Norfolk Southern Railway Company between milepost 100.7 and milepost 100.3. See *Cassatt Mgmt., LLC—Discontinuance of Serv. Exemption—in Norfolk, Va.*, Docket No. AB 1267 (Sub-No. 1X).