

carrier and that its annual revenues are not projected to exceed \$5 million.

The parties propose to consummate the transaction on or about July 15, 2003.

This transaction is related to STB Finance Docket No. 34357, *Eyal Shapira—Continuance in Control Exemption—New York and Eastern Railway LLC and Raritan Central Railway, L.L.C.*, wherein Eyal Shapira has concurrently filed a verified notice to continue in control of NY&E, upon NY&E becoming a Class III rail carrier.

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 transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34358, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on John D. Heffner, 1920 N Street, NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: June 23, 2003.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-16304 Filed 6-26-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34357]

Eyal Shapira—Continuance in Control Exemption—New York and Eastern Railway LLC and Raritan Central Railway L.L.C.

Eyal Shapira (Shapira), an individual, has filed a verified notice of exemption to continue in control of New York and Eastern Railway LLC (NY&E), upon NY&E becoming a Class III rail carrier.

This transaction is related to the concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in STB Finance Docket No. 34358, *New York and Eastern Railway LLC—Lease, Operation, and Future Purchase Exemption—New York Central Lines, LLC and CSX Transportation, Inc.*, wherein NY&E seeks to lease and operate (with an option to purchase) approximately 4.7 miles of rail line and associated property presently owned by

New York Central Lines, LLC and operated by CSX Transportation, Inc., in the Town and City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, NY.

Shapira owns a majority interest and controls one existing Class III rail carrier: Raritan Central Railway, L.L.C., that operates in the Townships of Edison and Woodbridge, in Middlesex County, NJ.

Shapira states that: (1) The railroads do not connect with each other or any railroad in their corporate family; (2) the continuance in control is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would connect the railroads with each other or any railroad in their corporate family; and (3) the transaction does not involve a Class I carrier. Therefore, the transaction is 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. Section 11326(c), however, does not provide for labor protection for transactions under sections 11324 and 11325 that involve only Class III rail carriers. Accordingly, the Board may not impose labor protective conditions here, because all of the carriers involved are Class III carriers.

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 transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34357, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on John D. Heffner, 1920 N Street, NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: June 23, 2003.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-16305 Filed 6-26-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket Nos. AB-55 (Sub-No. 635X) and AB-364 (Sub-No. 9X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Gratiot County, MI; Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc.—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Gratiot County, MI

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) and Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc. (MMR) have filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* for CSXT to abandon and MMR to discontinue service over approximately 5.5 miles of railroad from milepost CBE-40.00 at Alma, to milepost CBE-45.5 at Elwell, in Gratiot County, MI. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 48801 and 48832.

CSXT and MMR have certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; (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 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 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 this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment or discontinuance shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 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 July 29, 2003, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any

file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by July 7, 2003. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by July 17, 2003, with: Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicants' representative: Natalie S. Rosenberg, CSX Transportation, Inc., 500 Water Street J150, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

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

CSXT and MMR have filed an environmental report which addresses the effects, if any, of the abandonment and discontinuance on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by July 3, 2003. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1552. [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), CSXT 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 CSXT's filing of a notice of consummation by June 27, 2004, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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

Decided: June 19, 2003.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

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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.

² Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 200X)]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Franklin and Butler Counties, IA

On June 9, 2003, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 to abandon an eastern portion of its Bristow Subdivision rail line, extending from milepost 318.36 near Hampton to milepost 294.75 near Allison, a distance of 23.61 miles, in Franklin and Butler Counties, IA. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 50441, 50602, and 50625 and includes no stations.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in UP's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 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 September 26, 2003.

Any offer of financial assistance 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 offer must be accompanied by a \$1,100 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 July 17, 2003. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 200X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Mack H. Shumate, Jr., 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920, Chicago, IL 60606. Replies to the UP petition are due on or before July 17, 2003.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment and discontinuance procedures may contact

the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 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 Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1552. [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 SEA 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 SEA 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 will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: June 23, 2003.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-16306 Filed 6-26-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

President's Commission on the United States Postal Service

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury, Departmental Offices.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is given of a meeting of the President's Commission on the United States Postal Service.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 16, from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, 2nd and C Streets, NE., Washington, DC 20510.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roger Kodat, Designated Federal Official, (202) 622-7073.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: At the public meeting, the Commission will continue its examination of the issues outlined in Executive Order 13278 and will receive the reports of each of the four Commission subcommittees. Seating is limited.