

(B) Clearing Agency's Statement on Burden on Competition

ICE Clear Europe does not believe the proposed amendments would have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The amendments are being adopted to update and clarify the Price Submission Disciplinary Procedure and would apply equally to all CDS Clearing Members. As a result, ICE Clear Europe does not expect that the proposed changes will adversely affect access to clearing or the ability of Clearing Members, their customers or other market participants to continue to clear contracts. ICE Clear Europe also does not believe the amendments would materially affect the cost of clearing or otherwise impact competition among Clearing Members or other market participants or limit market participants' choices for selecting clearing services. Accordingly, ICE Clear Europe does not believe the amendments would impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purpose of the Act.

(C) Clearing Agency's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

Written comments relating to the proposed amendments have not been solicited or received by ICE Clear Europe. ICE Clear Europe will notify the Commission of any written comments received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve or disapprove the proposed rule change or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission or advance notice is consistent with the

Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-ICEEU-2021-002 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ICEEU-2021-002. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filings will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of ICE Clear Europe and on ICE Clear Europe's website at <https://www.theice.com/notices/Notices.shtml?regulatoryFilings>.

All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ICEEU-2021-002 and should be submitted on or before March 11, 2021.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-03217 Filed 2-17-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-91116; File No. SR-CBOE-2020-050]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2, To Amend Rules 5.37 and 5.73 Related to the Solicitation of Market Makers for SPX Initiating Orders in the Automated Improvement Mechanism and FLEX Automated Improvement Mechanism

February 11, 2021.

I. Introduction

On June 3, 2020, Cboe Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange" or "Cboe") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to permit orders for the accounts of market makers with an appointment in S&P 500® Index Options ("SPX") to be solicited for the initiating order submitted for execution against an agency order into an Automated Improvement Mechanism ("AIM") auction or a FLEX AIM auction. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on June 18, 2020.³ On July 2, 2020, the Exchange submitted Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change, which replaced and superseded the proposed rule change in its entirety.⁴ On July 22, 2020, the Exchange submitted

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89062 (June 12, 2020), 85 FR 36907. Comments received on the proposed rule change are available on the Commission's website at: <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-cboe-2020-050/sr-cboe2020050.htm>.

⁴ In Amendment No. 1, the Exchange: (1) Limited the scope of its original proposal, which would have permitted orders for the accounts of market makers with an appointment in any class to be solicited for the initiating order in an AIM or FLEX AIM auction in that class, to only allow market makers with an appointment in SPX to be solicited for the initiating order in an AIM or FLEX AIM auction in SPX; and (2) provided additional data, justification, and support for its modified proposal. The full text of Amendment No. 1 is available on the Commission's website at: <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-cboe-2020-050/sr-cboe2020050-7382058-218888.pdf>.

Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change.⁵ On July 27, 2020, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.⁷ On August 21, 2020, the Commission published notice of Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 and instituted proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act⁸ to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2.⁹ On December 8, 2020, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹⁰ the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2.¹¹ This order approves the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2.

II. Description of the Proposal, as Modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2

The Exchange proposes to permit orders for the accounts of market makers with an appointment in SPX to be solicited for the initiating order submitted for execution against an agency order in SPX options into a simple AIM auction pursuant to Rule 5.37 or a simple FLEX AIM auction pursuant to Rule 5.73.¹² Currently, the introductory paragraphs of Rules 5.37 and 5.73 prohibit orders for the accounts of market makers with an

appointment in the applicable class to be solicited to execute against the agency order in a simple AIM or FLEX AIM auction, respectively. The Exchange states that no similar restriction applies to crossing transactions in open outcry trading, where a significant portion of SPX options trade.¹³ The Exchange represents that brokers seeking liquidity to execute against customer orders on the trading floor regularly solicit appointed SPX market makers for this liquidity, as they are generally the primary source of pricing and liquidity for those options.¹⁴

The Exchange states that, during a period of time in which it suspended open outcry trading to help prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus and began operating in an all-electronic configuration, it activated AIM for SPX options and adopted a temporary rule change to permit market makers to be solicited for electronic crossing transactions in its exclusively-listed index options (including SPX options) when the Exchange's trading floor was inoperable.¹⁵ According to the Exchange, while AIM was activated for SPX options, the Exchange observed price improvement benefits in AIM auctions for smaller, retail-sized SPX options.¹⁶ Although the Exchange has deactivated AIM for SPX options with the reopening of its trading floor, the Exchange further states that, if it determines to reactivate AIM for SPX options, it believes it is appropriate to permit orders for the account of an appointed SPX market maker to be submitted as the contra order, as the Exchange believes the liquidity provided by SPX market makers is necessary for brokers to initiate AIM auctions and create potential price improvement opportunities for those retail-sized orders.¹⁷ The Exchange also states that with additional market participants available for solicitation to represent the initiating order, the increased competition may encourage these participants to provide more aggressive prices to initiate an auction in SPX.¹⁸

The Exchange further states that, in multi-list classes, many market makers

serve as both appointed market makers on the Exchange and as market makers on other options exchanges and, as a result, can use their away market maker accounts to be solicited as a contra order for AIM auctions.¹⁹ The Exchange provides data from April 2020 demonstrating that approximately 99.6% of the orders submitted into all AIM auctions had initiating orders comprised of orders for accounts of away market makers, making up approximately 86.2% of the volume executed through AIM auctions.²⁰

According to the Exchange, however, because SPX is an exclusively-listed class on the Exchange, a firm cannot serve as an SPX market maker at another options exchange.²¹ The Exchange represents that there are currently 28 trading permit holders with SPX appointments that would be available to participate in AIM auctions through both contra orders and auction responses.²² The Exchange provides data showing that during April and May 2020, when initiating orders could be comprised of orders for accounts of SPX market makers pursuant to a temporary rule, approximately 22% of initiating orders executed in SPX AIM auctions were comprised of orders for SPX market makers, representing approximately 45% of SPX volume executed in AIM auctions.²³ The Exchange's data further demonstrates that during April and May 2020, while approximately 76% of initiating orders executed in SPX AIM auctions were comprised of orders for accounts of away market makers, those orders represented only approximately 5% of the SPX volume executed through AIM auctions.²⁴ The Exchange's data also shows that during April and May 2020, SPX market makers executed approximately 31% of SPX volume executed through AIM auctions with auction responses.²⁵

The Exchange also states that SPX market makers frequently serve as contra parties to crossing transactions on the trading floor and the proposed rule change will further align AIM auctions with SPX crossing executions that occur on the trading floor. According to the Exchange, for example, during February 2020, approximately 76% of SPX orders crossed on the trading floor (consisting of 2,944,161 contracts) included an order of an SPX

⁵ In Amendment No. 2, the Exchange: (1) Provided additional data, justification, and support for its proposal; and (2) made technical corrections and clarifications to the description of the proposal. The full text of Amendment No. 2 is available on the Commission's website at: <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-cboe-2020-050/sr-cboe2020050-7464399-221161.pdf>.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89398, 85 FR 46197 (July 31, 2020). The Commission designated September 16, 2020 as the date by which the Commission shall approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

⁹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89635, 85 FR 53051 (August 27, 2020).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹¹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90593, 85 FR 80842 (December 14, 2020). The Commission designated February 13, 2021 as the date by which the Commission shall approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2.

¹² The initiating order is the order comprised of principal interest or a solicited order(s) submitted to trade against the order the submitting trading permit holder (the "Initiating TPH" or "Initiating FLEX Trader," as applicable) represents as agent (the agency order). The Exchange states that AIM is currently not activated for SPX options, although FLEX AIM is currently activated for FLEX SPX options. See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 4 & n.2.

¹³ See Rules 5.86 and 5.87. See also Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 4.

¹⁴ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 4.

¹⁵ See *id.* at 4–5. See also Rule 5.24(e)(1)(A); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88886 (May 15, 2020), 85 FR 31008 (May 21, 2020) (SR–CBOE–2020–047).

¹⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89058 (June 12, 2020), 85 FR 36918 (June 18, 2020) (SR–CBOE–2020–051).

¹⁷ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 5–6.

¹⁸ See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 5, at 4.

¹⁹ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 7.

²⁰ See *id.*

²¹ See *id.*

²² See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 5, at 3.

²³ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 7.

²⁴ See *id.*

²⁵ See *id.*

market maker on one side of the transaction.²⁶

With respect to FLEX AIM, the Exchange states that, unlike in simple non-FLEX markets, FLEX market makers have no obligations to provide liquidity to FLEX classes and there is no book into which FLEX market makers may submit quotes to rest. According to the Exchange, therefore, appointed market makers in FLEX markets are on equal footing with all other market participants with respect to FLEX AIM auctions and permitting FLEX market makers to be solicited as the contra order in a FLEX AIM auction would provide all market participants with the opportunity to provide liquidity to execute against agency orders in FLEX AIM auctions in the same manner (*i.e.*, through solicitation and responses).²⁷

The Exchange also proposes to amend Rules 5.37(c)(5) and 5.73(c)(5) to codify that any user or FLEX Trader, respectively, other than the Initiating TPH or FLEX Trader, respectively, may submit responses to AIM and FLEX AIM auctions. The Exchange also proposes to specify that the system will reject a response with the same EFID as the initiating order.²⁸ The Exchange represents that if the same user submits a response to an auction in which that same user had an order comprising the initiating order (even with a different EFID), the Exchange may take regulatory action against that user for a violation of the proposed rule.²⁹ Further, with respect to any potential misuse of non-public information by an SPX market maker regarding an upcoming SPX AIM auction, the Exchange represents that it has existing rules that prohibit a pattern or practice of submitting orders or quotes for the purpose of disrupting or manipulating AIM auctions and that require trading permit holders to establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent the misuse of material, non-public information.³⁰

III. Discussion and Commission Findings

The Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2, is consistent

with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.³¹ In particular, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2, is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,³² which requires, among other things, that the rules of a national securities exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The Commission also finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2, is consistent with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,³³ which requires that the rules of a national securities exchange do not impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

As described above, the Exchange proposes to permit orders for the accounts of market makers with an appointment in SPX to be solicited for the initiating order submitted for execution against an agency order in SPX options into an AIM auctions. In support of its proposal, the Exchange states that brokers seeking liquidity to execute against customer orders on the trading floor regularly solicit appointed SPX market makers for this liquidity, as they are generally the primary source of pricing and liquidity for those options. Accordingly, the Exchange believes the liquidity provided by SPX market makers is necessary for brokers to initiate AIM auctions and would create potential price improvement opportunities for retail-sized orders in SPX. As summarized in more detail above, the Exchange collected data during the time open outcry trading was temporarily suspended and SPX options traded in AIM auctions while the trading floor was inoperable. The data demonstrates that significant price improvement opportunities for retail-sized orders occurred during this time.

Two commenters agreed with Cboe that the proposal would increase liquidity for AIM auctions and thereby would increase execution and price improvement opportunities for retail

investors.³⁴ One such commenter argued that removing the market maker solicitation prohibition would eliminate an inequity against market makers that unduly curtails liquidity to customer orders.³⁵ Commenters also supported the proposal because it would better align the execution and price improvement opportunities in electronic crossing auctions with those available in open outcry trading, where no similar solicitation prohibition exists.³⁶

After careful consideration, the Commission believes that the proposal is reasonably designed to protect investors and the public interest. The data provided by the Exchange supports the Exchange's conclusion that the proposal could provide additional execution and price improvement opportunities for customer orders in SPX options submitted through the Exchange's AIM auctions. As described above, the Exchange provided data demonstrating market maker participation in SPX AIM auctions during April and May 2020, the temporary period when SPX market makers were permitted to be solicited as contra side to the agency order in AIM auctions.³⁷ The Commission believes that the Exchange's data shows that SPX market makers represented a significant amount of SPX AIM volume during this period, both as initiating orders and through auction responses. Accordingly, the Exchange's data supports a finding that permanently permitting initiating orders from SPX market makers is designed to increase the number of AIM auctions and consequently, provide a larger number of agency orders with the opportunity for price improvement. For example, an AIM agency order for less than 50 contracts is guaranteed price improvement of at least one minimum increment better than the then-current National Best Bid or National Best Offer.³⁸

The Commission further believes that the proposed rule change will not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in

³⁴ See letters to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Richard J. McDonald, Susquehanna International Group, LLP, dated July 8, 2020, at 2 ("SIG Letter") and Ellen Greene, Managing Director, Equities & Options Market Structure, The Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, dated July 9, 2020, at 3 ("SIFMA Letter"). The SIG Letter and SIFMA Letter commented on Cboe's original proposal, which would have applied the proposed rule change to all classes, not just SPX.

³⁵ See SIG Letter, *supra* note 34, at 1.

³⁶ See SIFMA Letter, *supra* note 34, at 3; SIG Letter, *supra* note 34, at 2.

³⁷ See *supra* notes 23–25 and accompanying text.

³⁸ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 8.

²⁶ See *id.* at 8.

²⁷ See *id.* at 9.

²⁸ See Rule 1.1 (defining EFID as an "Executing Firm ID"). The Exchange states that, although the system is only able to reject responses with the same EFID as the initiating order, the rule prohibits all responses from the same user that represents the initiating order, even if orders for the same user have different EFIDs. See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 10.

²⁹ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 10.

³⁰ See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 5, at 5. See also Rules 5.37.02 and 8.10.

³¹ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

³² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

³³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

furtherance of the purposes of the Act. SPX market makers frequently serve as contra parties to crossing transactions on the trading floor. For example, during February 2020 (when the trading floor was open), approximately 76% of SPX orders crossed on the trading floor (consisting of 2,944,161 contracts) included an order of an SPX market maker one side of the transaction.³⁹ Cboe states that this demonstrates the importance of appointed SPX market makers to the provision of liquidity in the SPX market with respect to crossing transactions, which liquidity would not be available to initiate electronic crossing transactions under the current AIM rule.⁴⁰ Thus, the proposed rule change will further align open outcry and electronic crossing auctions in SPX and provide execution and price improvement opportunities in both auctions by permitting all market participants, not just Cboe SPX market makers, to be solicited to participate in AIM transactions.

Moreover, because the Exchange's rules no longer restrict the group of participants that may provide responses to AIM auctions,⁴¹ there are a number of appointed SPX market makers on the Exchange that would remain eligible to provide competitive responses to AIM auctions.⁴² According to the Exchange, there are currently 28 trading permit holders with SPX appointments that would be available to participate in AIM auctions through both contra orders and auction responses.⁴³ Further, the proposal would allow for an increased number of participants to provide the contra-side interest necessary to initiate a competitive AIM auction, particularly in an exclusively-listed class such as SPX where away market makers are unavailable to provide such interest. The Exchange's data demonstrated that during the temporary period, SPX market makers executed approximately 31% of SPX volume executed through AIM auctions with auction responses.⁴⁴

Accordingly, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2, is consistent with the requirements of the Act.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁴⁵ that the proposed rule change, as modified by

Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 (SR-CBOE-2020-050), be, and hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁴⁶

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-03219 Filed 2-17-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36481]

Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—North Coast Railroad Authority

Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District (SMART), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire from North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) and operate approximately 87.65 miles of rail line (the Line), consisting of: (1) The line of railroad and right-of-way in fee between the Sonoma-Mendocino County, Cal., border at NWP milepost 89 and Healdsburg, Cal., at NWP milepost 68.2; and (2) the freight rail operating easement between Healdsburg, at NWP milepost 68.2 and Lombard, Cal., at SP milepost 63.4.¹

The verified notice states that SMART and NCRA have executed an agreement pursuant to which SMART will acquire the Line from NCRA, and that SMART will become the freight operator of the Line, using a noncarrier contract operator.

SMART certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction will not exceed \$5 million or the threshold required to qualify as a Class III carrier. SMART also certifies that the proposed acquisition and operation of the Line does not involve a provision or agreement that may limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier.

The transaction may be consummated on or after March 4, 2021, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

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 transaction. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than February 25, 2021 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36481, should be filed with the Surface Transportation Board via e-filing on the Board's website. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on SMART's representative, Kevin M. Sheys, Hogan Lovells US LLP, Columbia Square, 555 Thirteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20004.

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

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

Decided: February 12, 2021.

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

Jeffrey Herzig,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2021-03377 Filed 2-17-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury; Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board); and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Joint notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the OCC, the Board, and the FDIC (the agencies) may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. On November 30, 2020, the agencies, under the auspices of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), requested public comment for 60 days on a proposal to revise and extend the

³⁹ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 8.

⁴⁰ See *id.*

⁴¹ See Rules 5.37(c)(5) (AIM) and 5.38(c)(5).

⁴² See text accompanying *supra* note 22.

⁴³ See Amendment No. 2, *supra* note 5, at 3.

⁴⁴ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 4, at 7.

⁴⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁴⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ The verified notice states that SMART owns the segment of the Line between Healdsburg and Lombard, subject to an easement for freight rail service over the segment, and that, through this verified notice, SMART will acquire the freight rail easement. See *Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit Dist.—Acquis. Exemption—Nw. Pac. R.R. Auth.*, FD 34400 (STB served Mar. 10, 2004).