

Applications for exemptions, preemption determinations and waivers of preemption are covered under subparts B and C of part 107. Rulemaking procedures enable RSPA to determine if a rule change is necessary, is consistent with public interest, and maintains a level of safety equal to or superior to that of current regulations. Exemption procedures provide the information required for analytical purposes to determine if the requested relief provides for a comparable level of safety as provided by the HMR. Preemption procedures provide information for RSPA to determine whether a requirement of a State, political subdivision, or Indian tribe is preempted under 49 U.S.C. 5125, or regulations issued thereunder, or whether a waiver of preemption should be issued.

*Affected Public:* Shippers, carriers, packaging manufacturers, and other affected entities.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,304.

*Estimated Number of Responses:* 4,294.

*Annual Estimated Burden Hours:* 4,219

*Frequency of Collection:* Periodically.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for RSPA, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

*Comments are invited on:* Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is most effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 11, 2003.

**Edward T. Mazzullo,**

*Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Standards.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34303]

#### Dallas, Garland & Northeastern Railroad—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—The Kansas City Southern Railway Company

Dallas, Garland & Northeastern Railroad (DGNO), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire and operate, pursuant to an agreement entered into between The Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCS) and DGNO, 2.6 miles of rail line of KCS in West Dallas, TX, between milepost 3.0 and milepost 5.6, known as Hale Cement Spur near Dallas.

Because DGNO's projected annual revenues will exceed \$5 million, DGNO certified to the Board on December 19, 2002, that it sent the required notice of the transaction to the national offices of all labor unions representing employees on the line and posted a copy of the notice at the workplace of the employees on the affected lines on December 19, 2002. *See* 49 CFR 1150.42(e).

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on March 28, 2003, the effective date of the exemption (which is more than 60 days after DGNO's certification to the Board that it had complied with the Board's rule at 49 CFR 1150.42(e)).

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to reopen the proceeding 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. 34303, 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 Gary A. Laakso, Vice President Regulatory Counsel, 5300 Broken Sound Boulevard, NW., Boca Raton, FL 33487 and Louis E. Gitomer, Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, NW., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

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

Decided: April 11, 2003.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 227X)]

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

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 2.9-mile line of railroad between milepost CH-3.6 at Hurricane Junction and milepost CH-6.5 at Clinchfield, Russell County, VA.<sup>1</sup> The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 24266.

NSR has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) no overhead traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (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 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, this exemption will be effective on May 18, 2003, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental

<sup>1</sup> An exemption allowing NSR's predecessor, Norfolk and Western Railway Company, to discontinue service over this line was granted in 1990. *See Norfolk and Western Railway Company—Discontinuance Exemption—in Russell County, VA*, Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 97X) (ICC served July 16, 1990).