

231020

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS
2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037

TELEPHONE (202) 663-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 663-7849

RECEIVED
MANAGEMENT
STB

RCB=RI A W MB SH

(202) 663-7824 (Direct Dial)
E-Mail rwimbish@bakerandmiller.com

September 30, 2011

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

SEP 30 2011

PUBLIC RECORD

BY HAND DELIVERY

Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - In Forsyth County, NC*, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

Dear Ms. Brown:

Pursuant to the Board's exemption procedures for discontinuances of service for lines with no local business for at least two years (49 C.F.R. § 1152.50), enclosed on behalf of Norfolk Southern Railway Company are an original and 11 copies of a verified discontinuance of service notice of exemption.

A check in the amount of \$3,600.00 is enclosed as the filing fee.

Please acknowledge receipt and filing of this notice of exemption by date-stamping the enclosed eleventh copy and returning it to the courier to return to me.

FEE RECEIVED

SEP 30 2011

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

* Contains Color Map
Enclosures
cc: Marc Kirchner, Greg Summy

Sincerely,

Robert A. Wimbish
Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

FILED

SEP 30 2011

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

4
RECEIVED
SEP 30
MANAGEMENT
STB

STB DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

EXEMPTION NOTICE

**ENTERED
Office of Proceedings**

SEP 30 2011

**Part of
Public Record**

**FEE RECEIVED
SEP 30 2011
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

FILED

SEP 30 2011

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

* Contains Color Map

**Robert A. Wimbish
BAKER & MILLER PLLC
2401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: (202) 663-7824
Fax: (202) 663-7849**

**Attorney for Norfolk Southern
Railway Company**

Dated: September 30, 2011

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-721X

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

EXEMPTION NOTICE

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NSR”) hereby submits a notice of exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 1152. subpart F (Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights), to discontinue service over an approximately 10.0-mile rail line in Forsyth County, NC (the “Line”). In accordance with the Board’s regulations at 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50(b) and (d), NSR provides the following information in support of its notice:

Certification: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b)

The Line satisfies the criteria for discontinuance under the exemption at 49 C.F.R. part 1152, subpart F. See Verification of G.R. Comstock, General Manager Eastern Region – Norfolk Southern Railway Company, attached hereto and made part hereof as Exhibit A.

Proposed Consummation Date: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (d)(2)

The subject discontinuance will be consummated on or after November 19, 2011 (50 days after filing the notice of exemption).

Additional Information Required: 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.22(a)(1)-(4), (7)-(8) and (e)(4)

Exact name of applicant (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1)):

Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

Whether applicant is a common carrier by railroad (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(2)):

NSR is a Class I common carrier by railroad subject to the Board's jurisdiction under 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV.

Relief sought (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(3)):

NSR has invoked the Board's two-year-out-of-service class exemption procedures to discontinue service over approximately 10.0 miles of railroad (the Line) in Forsyth County, NC, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC).

Map (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(4)):

A detailed map showing the location of the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Applicant's representative (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(7)):

NSR's representative to whom correspondence regarding this discontinuance should be sent is as follows:

Robert A. Wimbish
BAKER & MILLER PLLC
2401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: (202) 663-7824
Fax: (202) 663-7849

USPS ZIP codes (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(8)):

The Line lies within the following U.S. Postal Service ZIP Codes territories: 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127.

Rural and Community Impact (49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(e)(4)):

The Line has been dormant for at least two years due to a lack of shipper demand, so NSR anticipates no rural or community impact from the discontinuance of its common carrier obligation. Because the Line has not been used for local rail shipments for over twenty-four (24)

months, there will be no effect on regional or local transportation systems and patterns, and no diversion of traffic to other transportation systems or modes would result from NSR's action.

The informational requirement of section 1152.22(e)(4) (alternative public uses of rail property) appears to be pertinent only in cases where the railroad proposes to *abandon* rail property.¹ But here NSR is filing a notice of exemption to *discontinue service* over the Line, not abandon it, and for this reason NSR has no opinion on whether or not the subject rail property might be appropriate for use for other public purposes. Although the following is of questionable relevance here (because the proposed action does not entail abandonment of a rail line), NSR nevertheless states that: based upon the information in its possession, NSR is unaware of any condition that would affect the transfer of title to or the use of the railroad right-of-way for other than rail purposes.

Labor Protection

The interests of affected railroad employees, if any, will be protected by the conditions discussed in Oregon Short Line Railroad — Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

Certifications

Attached hereto as Exhibit C are the Certificates of Service and Publication pursuant to the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.12 and 1152.50(d)(1). For reasons set forth in the

¹ See, e.g., Columbus and Greenville Railway Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – in Greenwood, MS, STB Docket No. AB-297 (Sub-No. 103X), slip op. at 2 n.2 (STB served July 3, 2007) (“CAGY-Greenwood”) (“Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate”); Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Discontinuance Exemption—in Mahoning County, OH, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 292X), slip op. at 2 n.2 (“NS-Mahoning”) (STB served March 15, 2007) (same); Chillicothe-Brunswick Rail Maintenance Authority—Discontinuance Exemption—in Livingston, Linn, and Chariton Counties, MO, STB Docket No. AB-1001X, slip op at 2 n.3 (“CBRA-Livingston”) (STB served Feb 23, 2007) (same).

“Environmental and Historic Report” section below, the certification of service requirement at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 (transmittal of Environmental and Historic Reports) is not applicable here.

Environmental and Historic Report

A notice of exemption to discontinue service over (rather than to abandon) a line of railroad that has been out of service for more than two years does not require the preparation or submission of an Environmental and/or Historic Report.²

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Wimbish
BAKER & MILLER PLLC
2401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: (202) 663-7824
Fax: (202) 663-7849

Attorney for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

September 30, 2011

² See, e.g., Everett Railroad Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – In Blair County, PA, STB Docket No. AB-271X slip op. at 2 n.2 (STB served Nov. 16, 2007) (“Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, ... no environmental or historical documentation is required here under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and 1105.8(b), respectively”); CAGY-Greenwood at 2 n.2 (same); NS-Mahoning at 2 n.2 (same); CBRA-Livingston at 2 n.3 (same).

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

EXEMPTION NOTICE

EXHIBIT A

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b)**

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF GEORGIA:

ss:

CITY OF ATLANTA:

G. R. Comstock makes oath and says that he is General Manager Eastern Region for Norfolk Southern Railway Company; that the line between milepost L 0.00 (Winston-Salem) and milepost L 10.0 (Clemmons) in Forsyth County, North Carolina, over which service is to be discontinued, is subject to his supervision and direction; that no local traffic has moved over the line for at least two years, that no overhead traffic has moved over the line for at least two years and that overhead traffic, if there were any, could be rerouted over other lines; and that 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 before the Surface Transportation Board or any U. S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the two-year period.



G. R. Comstock

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 25th day of August, 2011.



Notary Public

My commission expires:

April 20, 2015

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

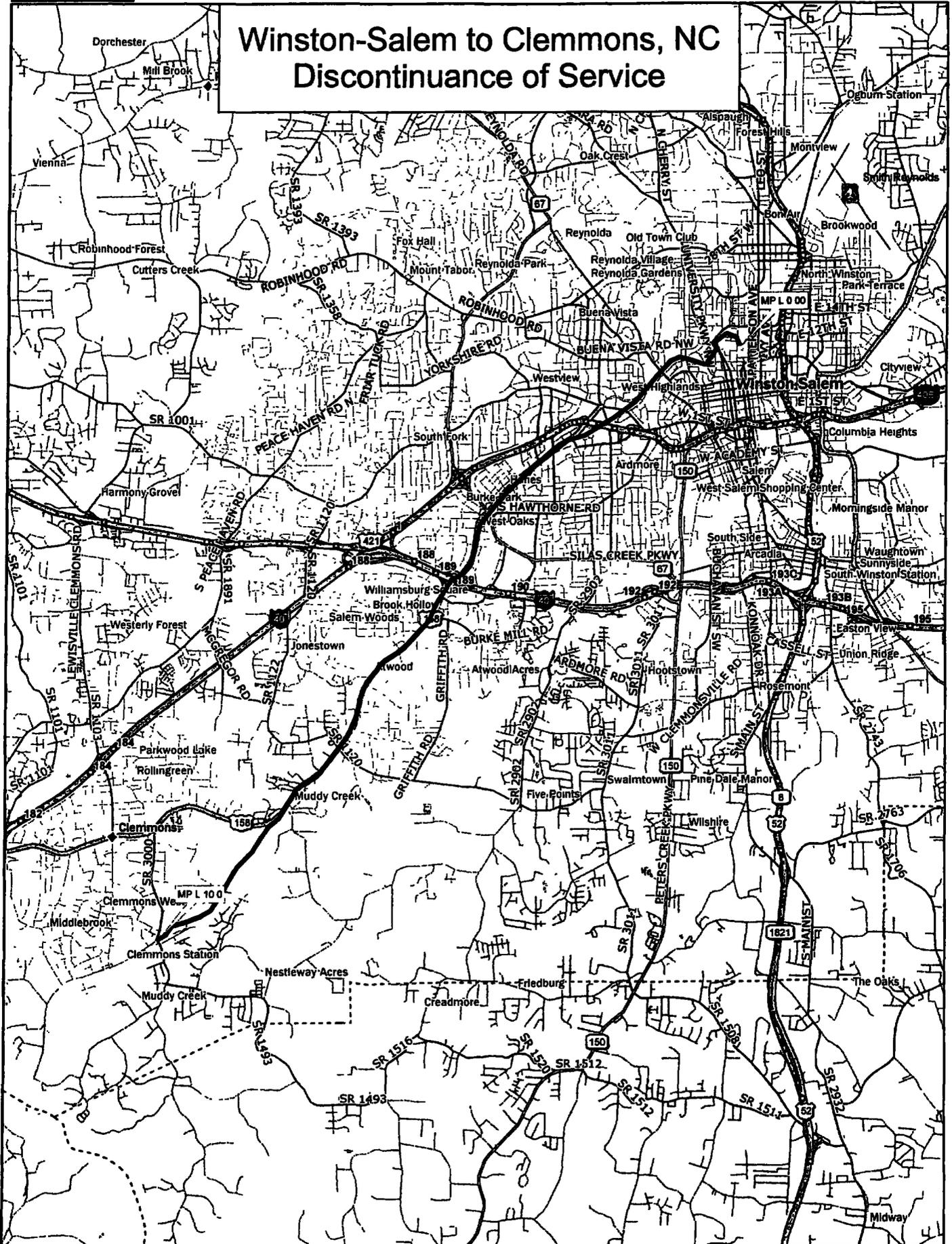
**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

EXEMPTION NOTICE

EXHIBIT B

MAP

Winston-Salem to Clemmons, NC Discontinuance of Service



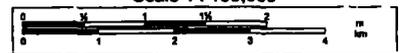
Data use subject to license.

© DeLorme. DeLorme Street Atlas USA® 2011.

www.delorme.com



Scale 1 : 100,000



1" = 1.58 mi Data Zoom 11-0

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

EXEMPTION NOTICE

EXHIBIT C

**CERTIFICATIONS OF
SERVICE/PUBLICATION**

Certificate of Service

49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) – Notice

I hereby certify that Norfolk Southern Railway Company supplied written notice of its intent to use the Surface Transportation Board's notice of exemption procedures to discontinue service over approximately 10.0 miles of rail line located in Forsyth County, NC. Written notice (a representative copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment 1), was served on September 19, 2011, upon the following:

Renne Vance, Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4325

North Carolina Department of Administration
State Environmental Review Clearinghouse
1301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1301¹

Patrick Simmons, Director
NCDOT Rail Division
1553 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-15

David Dorfman
SDDC TEA-Railroads for National Defense
1 Soldier Way, Bldg. 1900W
Scott AFB, IL 62225

Charlie Stockman
National Park Service
Rivers & Trails Conservation Program
1201 Eye Street, NW, 9th Floor
(Org. Code 2220)
Washington, D.C. 20005

Thomas L. Tidwell, Chief
Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Sidney R. Yates Federal Building
201 14th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

September 30, 2011



Robert A. Wimbish
Attorney for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

¹ The North Carolina Department of Administration ("NCDA") subsequently requested 18 additional copies of the advance notice letter, which NCDA planned to distribute to potentially interested state agencies. NSR promptly supplied NCDA with the requested copies.

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS

2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037

TELEPHONE (202) 663-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 663 7849

ROBERT A WIMBISH

(202) 663-7824 (Direct Dial)
E-Mail: rwimbish@bakerandmiller.com

September 19, 2011

Renne Vance, Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4325

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - In Forsyth County, NC*, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about September 30, 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption ("Notice") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F - *Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights*, to discontinue service over a 10.0-mile line of railroad located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC) - hereinafter, the "Line." The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code territories 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127. A map delineating the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Because this proceeding involves the discontinuance of common carrier service and not abandonment, NSR understands that the question of whether the Line contains federally-granted rights-of-way is inapplicable, and that the Line would not be suited at this time for alternative public use. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any questions about the discontinuance notice that NSR plans soon to file, please review the applicable regulations or contact me or the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 245-0230.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wimbish

Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Enclosure

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS

2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037

TELEPHONE (202) 663-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 663-7849

ROBERT A WIMBISH

(202) 663-7824 (Direct Dial)
E-Mail: rwimbish@bakerandmilller.com

September 19, 2011

North Carolina Department of Administration
State Environmental Review Clearinghouse
1301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1301

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - In Forsyth County, NC*, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about September 30, 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption ("Notice") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F - *Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights*, to discontinue service over a 10.0-mile line of railroad located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC) - hereinafter, the "Line." The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code territories 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127. A map delineating the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Because this proceeding involves the discontinuance of common carrier service and not abandonment, NSR understands that the question of whether the Line contains federally-granted rights-of-way is inapplicable, and that the Line would not be suited at this time for alternative public use. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any questions about the discontinuance notice that NSR plans soon to file, please review the applicable regulations or contact me or the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 245-0230.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wimbish

Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Enclosure

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS

2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037

TELEPHONE (202) 663-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 663 7849

ROBERT A WIMBISH

(202) 663-7824 (Direct Dial)
E Mail: rwimbish@bakerandmiller.com

September 19, 2011

Patrick Simmons, Director
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Rail Division
1553 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-15

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – In Forsyth County, NC.* STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about September 30, 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NSR”) expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a notice of exemption (“Notice”) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F – *Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights*, to discontinue service over a 10.0-mile line of railroad located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC) – hereinafter, the “Line.” The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code territories 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127. A map delineating the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Because this proceeding involves the discontinuance of common carrier service and not abandonment, NSR understands that the question of whether the Line contains federally-granted rights-of-way is inapplicable, and that the Line would not be suited at this time for alternative public use. Any documentation in the railroad’s possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any questions about the discontinuance notice that NSR plans soon to file, please review the applicable regulations or contact me or the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 245-0230.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wimbish

Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Enclosure

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS

2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037

TELEPHONE (202) 863-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 863-7849

ROBERT A WIMBISH

(202) 863-7824 (Direct Dial)
E-Mail rwimbish@bakerandmiller.com

September 19, 2011

Charlie Stockman
National Park Service
Rivers & Trails Conservation Program
1201 Eye Street, NW, 9th Floor (Org. Code 2220)
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - In Forsyth County, NC*, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about September 30, 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption ("Notice") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F - *Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights*, to discontinue service over a 10.0-mile line of railroad located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC) - hereinafter, the "Line." The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code territories 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127. A map delineating the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Because this proceeding involves the discontinuance of common carrier service and not abandonment, NSR understands that the question of whether the Line contains federally-granted rights-of-way is inapplicable, and that the Line would not be suited at this time for alternative public use. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any questions about the discontinuance notice that NSR plans soon to file, please review the applicable regulations or contact me or the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 245-0230.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wimbish

Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Enclosure

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS

2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037

TELEPHONE (202) 663-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 663-7849

ROBERT A WIMBISH

(202) 663-7824 (Direct Dial)
E-Mail: rwimbish@bakerandmiller.com

September 19, 2011

Thomas L. Tidwell, Chief of the Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Sidney R. Yates Federal Building
201 14th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – In Forsyth County, NC*, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about September 30, 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NSR”) expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a notice of exemption (“Notice”) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F – *Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights*, to discontinue service over a 10.0-mile line of railroad located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC) – hereinafter, the “Line.” The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code territories 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127. A map delineating the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Because this proceeding involves the discontinuance of common carrier service and not abandonment, NSR understands that the question of whether the Line contains federally-granted rights-of-way is inapplicable, and that the Line would not be suited at this time for alternative public use. Any documentation in the railroad’s possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any questions about the discontinuance notice that NSR plans soon to file, please review the applicable regulations or contact me or the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 245-0230.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wimbish

Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Enclosure

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

ATTORNEYS and COUNSELLORS
2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20037
TELEPHONE (202) 663-7820
FACSIMILE (202) 663-7849

ROBERT A WIMBISH

(202) 663-7824 (Direct Dial)
E Mail: rwimbish@bakerandmiller.com

September 19, 2011

David Dorfman
SDDC TEA
Railroads for National Defense
709 Ward Dr., Bldg. 1990
Scott AFB, IL 62225

Re: *Norfolk Southern Railway Company Discontinuance of Service Exemption In Forsyth County, NC*, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about September 30, 2011, Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of exemption ("Notice") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F - *Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights*, to discontinue service over a 10.0-mile line of railroad located in Forsyth County, North Carolina, extending from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC) - hereinafter, the "Line." The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code territories 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127. A map delineating the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Because this proceeding involves the discontinuance of common carrier service and not abandonment, NSR understands that the question of whether the Line contains federally-granted rights-of-way is inapplicable, and that the Line would not be suited at this time for alternative public use. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any questions about the discontinuance notice that NSR plans soon to file, please review the applicable regulations or contact me or the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 245-0230.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wimbish
Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

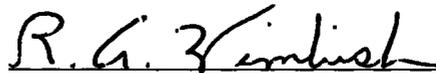
Enclosure

Certificate of Publication

49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 – Newspaper Notice

I certify that a “Notice of Intent to Discontinue Rail Service” was published in the form prescribed by the Surface Transportation Board for a notice of exemption strictly to discontinue rail service. The notice was published one time on September 28, 2011 in the Winston-Salem Journal, a newspaper of general circulation in Forsyth County, NC, where the Line is located. The Winston-Salem Journal has confirmed publication of the notice in its September 28 edition, but NSR has not yet received the standard affidavit of publication that customarily follows. NSR will supplement this notice filing promptly upon receipt of such affidavit.

September 30, 2011



Robert A. Wimbish
Attorney for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

EXEMPTION NOTICE

**DRAFT FEDERAL REGISTER
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Forsyth County, NC

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) filed on September 30, 2011, a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. part 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights to discontinue service over approximately 10.0 miles of railroad in Forsyth County, NC. The subject rail line extends from milepost L-0.0 (near Trade Street in Winston-Salem, NC), to milepost L-10.0 (near the intersection of Hampton Road and Idols Road in Clemmons, NC). The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 27012, 27101, 27103, 27104, 27105, and 27127.

NSR has 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 that has been, or would need to be, rerouted; (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 applicable requirements at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the 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, this exemption will be effective on November 19, 2011, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA for continued rail service under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(2) must be filed by _____.¹ Petitions to reopen must be filed by _____, 2011, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to NSR's representative: Robert A. Wimbish, Baker & Miller PLLC, 2401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, suite 300, Washington, DC 20037.

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

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

Decided: _____.

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

¹ Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,500. See 49 C.F.R. § 1002.2(f)(25). Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Likewise, no environmental or historical documentation is required here under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and 1105.8(b), respectively.

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 333X)

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY
- DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION -
IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NC**

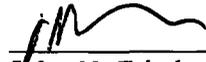
EXEMPTION NOTICE

VERIFICATION

VERIFICATION

I, John H. Friedmann, Vice President for Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR"), hereby verify under penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge the foregoing discontinuance of service notice of exemption is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to make such verification on behalf of NSR in connection with this proceeding before the Surface Transportation Board.

Executed this 28th day of September, 2011.



John H. Friedmann
Vice President

