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Office of Proceedings  
March 29, 2013  
Part of Public Record

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ABANDON**  
**(OUT-OF-SERVICE ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION)**

North Central Railway Association, Inc. gives notice that on or about the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB"), Washington, DC 20423, a Notice of Exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of a rail line located generally between a point at or near Ackley, Iowa (at Milepost 201.46) and at or near Geneva, Iowa (at Milepost 191.0) (a distance of 10.46 miles), all within Franklin and Hardin Counties, Iowa (the "Line"). The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-586 (Sub-No. 3X).

The Line is located within U.S. Postal Zip Codes 50633 and 50601. The Line for which the abandonment exemption petition is filed includes the stations of Ackley and Geneva, Iowa. The Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The interest of railroad employees will be protected as required by applicable law.

The STB's Section of Environmental Analysis ("SEA") will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 60 days after the filing of the Notice of Exemption and will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 30 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a STB decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, 1925-"K" Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at 202-565-1545.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the STB. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the STB. Any offer of financial assistance will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption.

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 and any request for trail use/rail banking will be due no later than 20 days after notice of the filing of the petition for exemption is published in the Federal Register.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Surface Transportation Board or refer to the full abandonment regulations at 49 CFR Part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis.

Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: T. Scott Bannister, 111 – SW 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50312 (Telephone No. 319-361-3067 or Telefax No. 515-277-4012) or at email address: sbannister@iowanorthern.com.