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SEC

SERVICE DATE – JUNE 8, 2005

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Finance Docket No. 34672

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY—ACQUISITION AND OPERATION
EXEMPTION—LINE OF BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY

Decided: June 7, 2005

By petition filed on March 11, 2005, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) seeks an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323-25 to acquire and operate approximately 23.7 miles of rail line of BNSF Railway Company (BNSF), extending from BNSF milepost 141.8 at Rockview, MO, to BNSF milepost 165.5 at Sikeston, MO.

According to UP, the purpose of the transaction is to implement directional running between Rockview and Dexter, MO, by redirecting some of UP's southbound trains from the line it currently owns between Rockview and Dexter so that these trains would be routed from Rockview to Sikeston over the line UP seeks to acquire from BNSF and then from Sikeston to Dexter along a line UP currently owns. UP notes that acquisition of the line would thus allow it to route approximately half of the southbound trains from its existing Rockview-Dexter line onto the new Rockview-Sikeston-Dexter route. UP has consulted with the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) regarding the environmental review process and, because of the increase in the number of trains along the Rockview-Sikeston line, environmental review is required under 49 CFR 1105.6(b)(4).

The Board is instituting a proceeding under 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). The Board will issue a decision on UP's petition following completion of the necessary environmental review.

It is ordered:

1. Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(b), a proceeding is instituted.

2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary